**ST. LAWRENCE PARISH COUNCIL / FINANCE COUNCIL**

**OCTOBER 24, 2023 (APPROVED NOVEMBER 28, 2023)**

STAFF/COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES AT LARGE MEMBERS

Pastor – Fr. Bill Burks George Morse

Director Youth Ministry Kenny Nauert, Sr.

& Faith Formation – Mike Raymer Denise Ruffra

Josh Riley

Chairperson – Matt Rasche Sarah Burke

Vice Chair – Aimee Burton (excused) Angela Taylor

Danielle Wiegandt (excused)

Finance Council – Emily Rickert Amy Wilson

Worship – Karen Kuenzig (excused)

Planning & Maintenance – Matt Rasche

Stewardship – Deacon David Maxwell Alternate:

Formation – Vicki Neuner (excused) Mary Doris McCubbins

Personnel Committee – Gena Rasche (excused) Joe Rickert

NDA – Dee Dee Nauert (excused)

Booster Club – Joe Rickert (excused)

Matt Rasche welcomed everyone. Opening prayer was offered by Fr. Bill. September meeting minutes were approved with a motion by Denise Ruffra, with second by Sarah Burke.

**PASTOR’S REPORT – REV. BILL BURKS**

Fr. Bill reported that last Saturday was the Reconciliation Workshop for 4th graders, along with Fr. Bennie, who helped with the Theology part. Fr. Bill instituted signups as weekend Mass for 8th and 4th graders. Signup for 2nd graders will begin soon. He tries to be in school as much as possible. Had a wonderful recent class with 7th graders. Roofing is complete. Instead of the Exposition of Blessed Sacrament at Mass, will bring up children around the altar during Consecration. Childre’s church will continue as usual. Mary Jansen is training youth to be lectors. Holy Cross students are also being trained as Eucharistic Ministers. Discussion followed regarding 7th & 8th graders serving as Eucharistic Ministers.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Finance** – Fr. Bill advised the Finance Council met before the PC meeting tonight. All parishes are using the new Archdiocese Financial Program – building a completely new system. “ParishSOFT System.” Have had support from Archdiocese for learning new system. Will be more aggressive in reports. Anticipate will be up to par by Lent, and strong by end of fiscal year. Fr. Bill stated October 31 is deadline for returning stewardship forms. Forms will be processed through the data base. Parish Council and Finance Council volunteers will be contacted. Will take about a week to process forms and determine who has signed up. Emily Rickert reported the picnic net as $14,896. Need breakdown for all booths to see which are profitable, to plan for next year. Don’t yet have access to money room ledger. Mat advised Julie Davis has that report. Committee will need that for final report. Matt also advised need payout for raffles.

CEC is reporting strong income, enrollment good.

Discussion followed regarding budgets for many different facets of St. Lawrence Parish. Noted security systems have been updgraded out of NDA funds. Discussion followed regarding new fobs for use on campus. Further discussion regarding St. Lawrence being landlord of building and NDA being tenant.

**Council Concerns** – Mary Doris McCubbins discussed Stewardship forms haven’t been available to shut-ins and non-computer literate parishioners. Fr. Bill advised we will put forms in bulletins sent to shut-ins. Also, will have forms available at Masses this weekend.

**NDA Criteria Steering Committee** – Members: Aimee Burton, Gena Rasche, Danielle Weigandt, George Morse, Kenny Nauert, Vicki Neuner, Joe Rickert, met September 25. Prior to meeting, committee received data of registered NDA families, Mass signups and tithing records. Some data wasn’t accurate. After review, Committee sent recommendations to Fr. Bill. Committee recommended self-reporting. Discussion followed regarding issues/concerns of committee. Suggestion made to include form with NDA Blast, with reminder.

After further discussion, Council suggested we need better reporting of time and talent. Fr. Bill re-iterated he doesn’t want to diminish the importance of being an active parishioner, and celebration of Mass with community.

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**NDA -** Dee Dee Nauert reported NDA is holding an Open House on Thursday, October 26. Seventeen families have signed up so far for tours that evening.

**Youth Ministry** – Mike Raymer sent report via email prior to meeting. Highlights include: 2 students are registered for Junior High After School, with 7/8 grades on Monday and 6th graders on Tuesday.

Mike attended Thriveanooga in September, in Chattanooga, which is an annual conference of youth ministers for training, support, and team building. Had 21 attendees to Family event to Iroquois Park Pumpkin Spooktacular, on October 17th. On October 21 will have 5 students and 2 adults going to Holy Fire in Nashville, for the Jr High Conference. Confirmation candidates and their sponsors will have Spark Night kick-off event with dinner and a speaker, on October 23. One student and chaperone planning to go to NCYC this year. Jr High and HS students are invited to serve with Hand-in-Hand Ministries for an Appalachian Mission Trip April 3-6. There are 15 spots available, with cost $275.00/person. Planning to go back to Guatemala in 2024. Looking for a funding source for the home build, with cost of $3500. Trip costs are approx. $1250/person, plus airfare. Dates are June 28-July 7, 2024. Can take up to 20 people.

Motion to adjourn made by Emily Rickert, with second by Josh Riley. Deacon David closed the meeting with prayer.

**Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, November 28 at 6:00 PM.**

Respectively submitted,

Dee Gossman