

**ST. STEPHEN
PARISH COUNCIL
DECEMBER 17, 2024**

Present:

Donna Bella
Ron Blaha
Lynn & Phill DiSalvo
Dr. Jim Ford
Joe Kinsella
Jennifer Knapp
John & Mary Sullivan
Randy Stroik

Excused/Absent:

- I. Meeting began with prayer.

- II. Old Business:
 - A. Centennial
 1. We have a few people who are making their final payments.
 - B. Inspired by the Spirit
 1. Father shared the most recent numbers and that offerings are coming in nicely.
 - C. Diocesan Annual Appeal
 1. Father provided updated numbers and shared that we have received \$10,000 in matching funds. If we receive all \$10,000 in gifts and the match, we will meet the goal and exceed it.
 - D. Notre Dame Center
 1. We have met with Marawood Construction and feel comfortable working with them. We will continue to move forward.
 2. There have been some modifications to the original design, which include the garage being part of the project.
 3. We hope to have updates in January.
 - E. Chimes
 1. The parts for the chimes have arrived, and the hope is that they will be ready for Christmas.
 2. There is one modification; we will still have a keyboard, which will be updated to work with a more modern system. It will still appear historical.

- III. New Business
 - A. Pilgrimage
 1. The parishes will be hosting a pilgrimage to Rome in October, during the Holy Year, which begins on Christmas Eve.
 2. More information will be shared in the bulletin.
 3. No cost to the parish.
 - B. Featured Committee
 1. How do we move forward with assisting/supporting the committees? Would it be wise to feature a committee at each meeting to share their good news and offer help and support?
 2. Once we identify some key tasks for a committee, we can place highlights in the bulletin.
 3. All agreed that we could begin this at our next meeting.

IV. Committees

A. Sacred Worship:

1. New Hymnals have been in use. I suggest putting the reading number on the middle boards.
2. Penance service this Thursday
3. All set for Christmas.
4. Mass for St. Stephen on 12/26
5. Solemnity of Mary will use the Sunday Mass times.
6. There will be a Jubilee year banner.

B. Education:

1. Pacelli is considering adding another 4K classroom to the St. Stephen campus for the 2025/2026 school year. Possibly repurposing one of the Aid's rooms. This would bring each grade to 2 classrooms.
2. Pacelli is looking at its Mission & Vision Statements.
3. There is steady revenue from the Chinese program abroad
4. Religious Ed recently held their St. Nick event. Attendance was good, considering the weather.
5. Middle school has been having first Saturday events, and attendance has been good; High School events have not been well attended, and we continue to look for ways to engage the students.
6. We will be attending Steubenville, our parishes have eight kids signed up.
7. Christine has been holding lunch at Pacelli once a month, with hopes of beginning at SPASH as well.

C. Buildings and Grounds

1. The Notre Dame update provided earlier
2. Boiler control in the school needed repair. The electrical line near the garage was raised.
3. We have been continuing discussions regarding building agreements with Pacelli.
4. The rectory got a new refrigerator.
5. The new custodian is still employed.

D. Family Life

1. Working on the upcoming Spaghetti Dinner to celebrate the success of the Diocesan Annual Appeal

E. Justice and Peace

1. Meal of Hope, September 2025. Dave is wondering if the Parish Council will commit to assisting with hosting this meal.

V. Next Meeting: February 25, 2025

VI. Closing prayer followed by Christmas Social.