

MINUTES

Opening Prayer

Accept previous meeting minutes: Motion by Mike, seconded by Mary. Carried.

Name	Present
Fr. Andrew Vogel	X
Bill Fitzpatrick, Trustee	X
Karen Kohlmeyer, Cemetery Trustee	X
Mary Mell, Member	X
Jean Meyer, Chair	X
Mike Moriarty, Trustee	X
Kathy Sexauer, Member	A
Debi Shuda, Parish Staff Bookkeeper / Volunteer Youth Coordinator	X
Deacon Bob Yerhot	A

1. Pastor's Report

- a. Upcoming Events: Diocese Synod - FOCUS Retreat Nov. 13-17th in Alexandria, VA. Will focus on Vocations. Fr. will be going.
- b. Upcoming Trips/Sessions: Presbyteral Days in Okoboji, IA Sept. 29 – Oct. 2nd. Fr. will be going.
- c. Upcoming Responsibilities:
 - Fr. wondered if St. Patrick's would like to place kneelers at the front altar area for those receiving communion who would like to kneel to receive.
 - **Action:** The Arts & Environment committee will look into and report back
 - **Update:** still considering – due to tight fit in area, may pose a problem.
 - Fr. and Jean to educate Eucharistic Ministers on where they can stand (front of right altar) to obtain host and cup.

Update: will be scheduling a date in November for training and pizza.

2. Parish Finances

- a. Presentation of Financial Reports: Debi

Motion to accept: Motion by Mary, seconded by Mike. Carried.

Motion by Bill, seconded by Karen to allow for a \$200/month travel stipend for Deacon to travel from Caledonia to/from Brownsville. This increases from \$150/month. Motion Carried.

Debi asked about the possibility for our parish to have a **special collection** at least once this year for the **Freeburg Cemetery**. In the past, our parish was assigned to Freeburg Cemetery and had a special collection during the summer months. A few years ago, the cemetery was moved to under St. Mary's. Because many parishioners have ties to Freeburg Cemetery, Debi would like to see our parish have a special collection at least once each year. **Council agreed and Jean will set up and announce.**

3. Parish Outreach/Environment: Jean

- a. Parish Outreach:

• **Current community outreach:**

- Fr. will be visiting Kathy Carlon who is at the Nursing Home in Houston
- Fr. will be visiting Lorraine Thillen, who is Gundersen Hospital

• Needs of parishioners:

- **Social Concerns:** Debi received a voice mail at the Parish Office regarding a young woman, not from St. Patrick's, who reached out for financial assistance. Stated that her electricity will be shut down.
Action: after much discussion, it was decided that this particular inquiry has resources to assist her at this time. However, Karen will write up a Policy and Procedure regarding providing assistance when warranted. **Motion** by Bill, seconded by Mike to have the Policy allow for a \$500 annual budgeted amount. Policy would call out that food and gas gift cards valued at \$50 each to can be distributed when agreed to disbursement.

- b. Parish Environment:

- Décor: Ordinary Time

c. Events:

4. Hall Cleaning and Mowing/Snow Removal:

a. Butch's Updates:

- Update: LED lighting in Parish Hall
 - Butch reported that Steve Colsch suggested that the replacement start at the Bathrooms & Kitchen. **Council agreed.**
- Report:

5. Buildings and Grounds

- Report:
- Cemetery Grounds -- Butch reported that there are trees overgrown at the Cemetery and he would like to cut them back. Council agreed, however, and requested that another person be with him when doing so.
UPDATE:

a. Donations:

b. Suggestion by Mary Mell to replace the chair that Fr. Joe sits on during Mass.

- Mary Mell will look into and report back
 - **UPDATE:** Mary and Randy Mell donated two chairs for the Altar area.

c. Seal Coating Parking Lot: **Motion** by Mike, seconded by Karen to patch and seal coat parking lot this year. Carried.

- **UPDATE:** Project completed by D&B Sealcoating, Caledonia.

6. Faith Formation: (Debi)

- a. Confirmation student report: 2026: 2 students (9th Grade: Jaline Foellmi, Walker Kohlmeyer, and Justin Riederer // 10th Grade: Brynn Waters, Sabrina TenKley)
- b. First Communion student report: 1 student @Crucifixion
- c. Youth Activities:
 - Steubenville --
 - Brat Fry --
- d. Generations of Faith: 2025-2026 Schedule: September 24, 2025 / October 22, 2025 / November 19, 2025 / January 28, 2026 / February 25, 2026 / March 25, 2026

2025 – 2026 Living a Moral Life (10 Commandments) Speakers - Fr. gave some ideas, with also some of the same speakers in previous years. Previous provided a \$50 stipend to speakers, now will provide a \$100 stipend. Carmen Barthel is unable to organize in the kitchen the first and second session. Dan Hurley has asked to provide a Spaghetti dinner with dessert. Council agreed.

7. Cemetery: (Karen)

- a. Cemetery Policy
- b. Cemetery Boundaries
- c. Cemetery fence replacement

ACTION: Fr. Vogel and Karen will work together on each of the above areas. **ON HOLD**

8. Other:

- a. Donation of Mother Mary Grotto from Mary Mell – place at front of the Rectory
- b. Spiritual Direction -- question/approval to use Rectory for Mary Mell -- Council agreed that St. Patrick's parishioners may use the Rectory. **Approval** for Mary provided.

- c. Debi asked if the Parish could purchase Kelly Books - Christmas Editions for a Dynamic Catholic. They are \$2 each. **Approval** to purchase up to 100 books.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 at 6:00 pm
Tuesday, August 19, 2025 at 6:00 pm
Tuesday, November 18, 2025 at 6:00 pm

Closing Prayer/ Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Mary and seconded by Mike. Carried.