

The Church of St. Mary
Finance Council Minutes
Tuesday, July 30, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT: Todd Wentworth, Fr. Matthew, Craig Olson, Mark Maloney, Francie Peterson, Randy Kinney, Fr. Dan, Deacon Nathaniel, Ron Kirscht.

ABSENT: Doreen Bartos, Angie Doty, Janet Schiltgen

Craig O. called the meeting to order at 4:45 p.m.

Todd W. led us in the opening prayer.

The minutes of the June 19, 2024, meeting were approved as presented.

There was one addition to the agenda under Old/New Business 2.a. Fall Newsletter

STANDING BUSINESS

1. Financial Reports were presented by Todd.
 - Total offerings finished the year strong above budget by 3% and 6.7% over last year.
 - Significant variances in revenues and expenses along with a total year recap were reviewed and discussed.
 - The parish has made investments in our facilities including the purchase of a rectory, new shingles on the church and expansion of the school kitchen's cooler and freezer storage.
 - The parish continues to serve the needs of the community with our significant sharing of our benevolence funds.
 - We restructured the Faith Formation program and the Pastoral Care Ministry while holding our related expenditures in line.
 - Todd also summarized the weekly mass counts for the year. Mass attendance is strong and increasing. We are at 86% of 2019 numbers.
 - Mark moved to accept the Financial Reports, 2nd by Fr. Matt. Motion carried.
2. Fr. Al Ludwig Benevolent Fund was reviewed. There are no current requests.
3. Facilities Update:
 - The school kitchen cooler-freezer project is nearly complete.
 - Church diamond shaped windows – Kevin Becker and Todd continue to work with the HGA architects to identify possible long-term solutions.
 - The new crucifix plans will be presented to the Diocesan Building Commission at their August meeting.

- We received \$4800 from insurance for power surge issues last fall. We were also approved for a new roof on the rectory due to hail damage in the amount of \$33,000, before our \$5000 deductible.
4. Stewardship - Working on the Annual Renewal.
 5. Parish Outreach – The fundraiser for the extended family of one of our employees was a success.
 6. Parish Raffle – we have sold 600 more tickets than last year at this time.
 7. St. Mary’s Catholic Foundation – No Report
 8. St. Mary’s School Trust Fund – No Report
 9. Pastoral Council Update – No Report – did not meet in June.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

1. The Parish Report to the Diocese was reviewed, approved and signed by Fr. Matthew and the trustees.
2. Discussion was held on ideas for communicating the 2024-2025 budget to the parish. Ideas in addition to what was identified at last month’s meeting, included spotlighting the school and its staff, students, & alumni.
3. The Stewardship Newsletter from Fall 2023 was reviewed, and suggestions were made for the 2024 Newsletter.
4. Todd reported that he continues to take recommendations to make improvements in the reporting of offerings in the bulletin to make it more accurate and timely.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Francie Peterson