

## St. Joseph, Guardian of the Holy Family Parish

### Parish Council Minutes - Wednesday, March 26, 2025

1. **Meeting Opening** - A meeting of the Council was held on March 26, 2025 at Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Church Hall (all churches and chapels are hereinafter abbreviated with first initials). Msgr. Stephen Avila (hereinafter "Fr. Steve") said the Opening Prayer. Jane Hopewood read the Statement of Purpose.

2. **Attendance** - Fr. Steve; Council members: Chair Frank Geishecker, Susan Cronin, Louise Gagnon, Jane Hopewood, Jeanne Jackman, Bill LaRuffa, Matt Lotito, Frank Maloney, Brian Mulhall, Jim Roux, Paul Skudder, Paula Tredeau; Deacon (*ex officio*) Pat Mahoney. Excused: Linda Hamilton, Mary Lou Palumbo, Jim Quinn; Deacon (*ex officio*): Bill Hays. Absent: Matheus Araujo; Deacons (*ex officio*): Gus Adams, Peter Guresh, Paul Harney; Daniel Cunha, Thomas Palanza, Maura Polles.

3. **Secretary/Minutes** - The meeting began at 6:30 p.m. Paula Tredeau served as temporary secretary. Bill LaRuffa made a motion to approve the Minutes of the meeting on February 26, 2025 as submitted. The motion was seconded by Jane Hopewood. The motion to approve the Minutes was approved unanimously.

4. **Standing Committee Reports** - Technology, Software and Data. Bill LaRuffa gave a detailed report to update the status of technology in the Parish. He submitted a written report, incorporated into these Minutes, from the Technology Team. It covered recent activities and updates, upcoming items, a Google email security update, and the status of security access to Parish buildings. Bill discussed details of the new projection computer purchased in the past few months, his efforts to recruit people to help with this ministry, the update on the livestream equipment software, Google's upcoming requirement for 2-factor authentication for signing into gmail accounts (there are 48 email addresses in the Parish), and that Tom Palanza will join the Technology team since he has experience with security systems that have key-card access to buildings. This is in the 5-year plan. The Chair thanked Bill for this detailed report.

5. **Old Business** - Last month, Brian Mulhall presented two ways that the Parish can support our priests in conjunction with the Diocesan program, Stronger Priests, Stronger Parishes, Stronger Church Initiative 2025-2027. In response, Fr. Steve reported that there will be a regular Mass said for Diocesan priests. Louise Gagnon commented that the Mass for St. Joseph Day on March 19th was beautiful, and the Sisters in Spirit had a very good turnout for the brunch that followed. It was a beautiful event. Last month Paul Skudder, on behalf of the *Laudato Si* Care for Creation Ministry, discussed plans for Earth Day, April 22, 2025 in order to observe this from the Pope's perspective in *Laudato si*. It was recognized that this date conflicts with other Parish events so there will be scaled back events for Earth Day. Paul further discussed the Faith Communities Environmental Network on the Cape. Additionally there was discussion of having a study program of *Laudato si*, followed by a presentation on it this summer.

6. **New Business** - None

7. **Pastor's Report** - Fr. Steve distributed a copy of the ad running in the Falmouth Enterprise for the Palm Sunday and Holy Week schedule. The schedule will be available on the Parish website and in the Bulletin. Fr. Steve said in honor the Jubilee Year, the Diocese has designated Pilgrimage locations. The Parish is sponsoring two Pilgrimages. The first is a young adults group organized by Jacqueline Hale. The group will hike from Provincetown to Falmouth, starting on Palm Sunday, and finishing in Falmouth, first at SE for the Holy Thursday service, and then concluding on Good Friday at SP at 3 pm for the Good Friday service. The second Pilgrimage is on the Tuesday after Easter, April 22, 2025. There will be a bus trip to the Cathedral in Fall River, with Mass at noon celebrated by Fr. Steve and lunch to follow. Fr. Steve also noted the Consecration to St. Joseph on Easter Monday, April 21, 2025 at 8 am Mass at SA with a reception to follow. It is the conclusion of the 33-day Consecration to St. Joseph which started March 19th and which used the book, Consecration to St. Joseph: The Wonders of Our Spiritual Father, written by Fr. Donald Calloway. Fr. Steve discussed that they are considering building two columbarium at St. Joseph and St. Anthony cemeteries. Fr. Steve said that the collection at the Holy Thursday service and the Lenten Chowder and Chat events will be sent to Holy Family Parish in Gaza, the same Parish in Gaza that was chosen last year. Fr. Steve noted that the attendance at the Chowder and Chat events has been lower. They are looking into the reasons, perhaps cost or whether the demographic has changed. Fr. Steve reported that the bathroom renovation has started at SJ Chapel in Woods Hole. Fr. Steve reported that there is a Finance Council meeting in the next couple of weeks.

7. **Next Meeting** - The next Council meeting is Wednesday, April 30, 2025 at SE at 6:30 pm.

8. **Adjournment** - The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Paula Tredeau