

Minutes of the Finance Council Meeting

OUR LADY OF THE PINES CHURCH, NEVIS

September 15, 2022

1. Members Present: Fr. Tony Fernando, Bob DeCrans, Theora Goodrich, Terry Lenz, Kathy Nagel and Connie Walz.

2. Opening Prayer: Father Tony opened with the “Hail Mary” prayer, in recognition of the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrow. The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read. (Walz, Nagel).

3. Reports:

From The Missionary Disciples Promotion Team: Deacon Mark will present a Parish Mission. He will speak at each weekend masses in Nevis and Laporte. The Mission days are: Monday evening, Sept. 26, thru Wednesday evening Sept. 28. Being the year of Eucharistic Revival Deacon Mark will focus on the topic: “Becoming what we eat.” After the retreat we will serve refreshments on Monday and Tuesday. On Wednesday at 6:00pm, a dinner will be served.

4. New Business:

4.1 Annual Financial Statements of the Parish/ Church Associated Organizations were reviewed and approved for publication. Some of the points noteworthy are:

The Cemetery Committee has invested their perpetual care money in CDs with the Diocesan Catholic Community Foundation (CCF) in Crookston. They use the interest for mowing and have money for perpetual care.

The Hospitality Committee made 7754 doughnuts this summer. They have a 22-year doughnut making history. The Hospitality Committee supports numerous activities of our parish as well as funds local events in the locality. The Quilting Group is trying to become self-sufficient with their fundraisers.

The Haiti Committee's accounting procedures are still in question. Discussion ensued regarding having the Bishop send his Financial Officer to look over finances and then the Corporate Body will approve further fundraising activities in 2023.

4.2 Eucharistic Revival Programs:

A. Relics of Blessed Carlos Acutis will be traveling to various places in our area this fall.

B. There will be a Eucharistic Congress in Fargo on September 23/24. All are invited.

C. There will also be a Rosary Congress in Crookston on October 7/8.

5. Church Projects:

A. Discussion included the following: Is Lawn Irrigation worth the money? (No.) New Signs? (Yes.) Roof Leak Repair? (Yes.) The money would be taken from designated funds for these projects.

B. Also discussed were: Need to buy some more choir hymnals; making a new photo directory on our Website or a printed book, and changes and additions to the physical look of the church. We agreed that these are wants, not needs, at this time.

6. Presentation of the First Quarter Financial Statement: July,22 -September, 22

A. First quarter statements were reviewed. Of note, the Cemetery Committee spends 40-60% on perpetual care. The Hospitality Committee donated \$3000 for Fuel expenses. (OLP spends about \$10,000 for heat.)

B. The First Quarter included payments for insurance and the priests' retirement fund.

C. The Finance Council approved mileage costs for organists for weekend masses.

7. Next Scheduled Meetings: Thursday, January 12, 2023 at 10:00 AM

8. Closing Prayer: Bob DeCrans closed the meeting with the Glory Be prayer.

Respectfully submitted
Theora Goodrich
Secretary