

Minutes OLA Parish Council Meeting, November 13, 2023

Members present: Fr. Paul D, Fr. Marlon, Fr. Paul R, S. Osborne (chairman, maintenance) B. Texter (parish coordinator), T. Woodward (bookkeeper), C. Herschel (rel. ed. coordinator) S. Chevalier (trustee) B. Cinque (trustee), B. Ernst (finance chair), B. Auer, B. Bonitz, J. Ciezlewicz, A.M. Troy, Excused S. Maleike, R. Masiero

- A. Call to order by S. Osborne (7:01pm)
- B. Opening prayer:
- C. Visitors present: T. Dempsey, T. Wall, E. Ernst, M. Barnett
- D. Acceptance of the October 9,2023 minutes (Approved)
- E. Next meeting: Monday, December 11, 2023 - Christmas Party to follow
- F. Pastoral Asst. report: submitted by G. Texter:
 - a. Thanksgiving Service for Pantry Families – The Thanksgiving food baskets will be distributed to the needy families after a service in the church on 11/18/2023 at 9am. Fr. Marlon will join Gary in the service, designed for families/people of various faiths and denominations.
 - b. Ecumenical/ Interfaith Outreach – The warming station for the homeless will open for the winter, Sunday 11/19/2023, with a prayer service at 7:30pm. Volunteers are still needed for overnight stay. Please see Gary if interested.
 - c. On a Personal Note – Gary is very grateful for the wonderful turnout for his book launch and signing. Many thanks to the parishioners of OLA for their support. Thank you to Fr. Paul D. for the Invocation.
- G. Religious Ed. Report: C. Herschel:
 - a. On 10/24/2023, beside the Confirmation Parent Meeting, the children learned about Hallows Eve, All Saints Day, All Souls Day, and what intersessions are. They also worked on a project that will be used as a Visio Divino on the Altar at the Youth Mass 11/4/2023.
 - b. On 10/28/2023 a few catechists and Christine attended a forum hosted by the Arch. Of N.Y. the keynote speaker, Juliana Stack was enlightening and expressed great enthusiasm and passion for The Eucharist. Great day.
 - c. The first Youth Mass for Rel. Ed. The Rite of Enrollment for level 7 was held on Sat. 9/23/2023.
 - d. The 1st fire drill was Tuesday 10/3/2023.
 - e. On 10/16 and 10/23 the level 7 and 8 classes were held at St. Joseph Church, Wurtsboro. Fr. Paul R. gave inspiration to us all.
 - f. Faith, Food & Fun went well. Thank you to Gary Texter and Fr. Marlon for an afternoon of information and inspiration on the topic of “Eucharistic Revival”. The day ended with The Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament.
 - g. On 11/7/2023 the children made Thanksgiving Day cards, wrapped & decorated boxes for the pantry client’s thanksgiving baskets.
 - h. On 11/14/2023 the children will have class in the Church. They will tour the church and learn about the parts of The Mass. The evening will end with Adoration.
 - i. On 11/21/2023 a lockdown drill is scheduled.
- H. Finance report: T. Woodward:
 - a. The format for the financial report has changed to a much easier to read layout.
 - b. The annual water bill was received with an exorbitant increase and no explanation. A meeting with Mayor Wood is set for 11/29/2023.
- I. Maintenance:
 - a. Thank you to Al Masiero for the autumn cleaning of the Meditation Garden.

- b. Sam is researching having the property surveyed and boundary pins set. Debris is found on OLA property. We need the boundaries identified before posted signs can be put up.
 - c. A new OLA Church sign will be put up at the corner of High Street in the next few weeks.
 - d. We are changing our oil company to Black Bear Fuel Oil. OLA will get the same rate for oil as Blue Sky. Thank you, Joe Herschel.
- J. Unfinished Business:
- a. The Xavier Group will perform 12/1/2023. Supper will be served at 5:30, Performance at 7:30. Signing up for supper will be announced and taken after each mass.
 - b. Ladies Guild will hold a craft and bake sale on 12/2-12/3 after each mass.
- K. New Business:
- a. On Sunday 12/3/2023 Lena Ferrara will celebrate her 100 years young birthday. Her nieces will host brunch after the 9:30 mass. All OLA parishioners are invited to celebrate with Lenas family.
 - b. Advent/Christmas Liturgy Meeting will be 11/30/2023.
 - c. Christmas Pageant – a poll was sent home with the Rel. Ed. children. The Christmas Eve Pageant will be determined by how many children commit to participate.
 - d. Thanksgiving Day Mass – 9:30am
Christmas Eve Mass – 5:30pm
Christmas Day Mass – 9:30am

Closing Remarks: Father Paul – We are coming upon the busy time of the year. A Joyful time. Remember we are here to serve The Lord Jesus.

Closing Prayer: