

**St. Wilfrid Parish**  
**Parish Council / Finance Committee Meeting**  
February 2, 2023

Present: Fr. Kevin Doyle, Janet Voorhees, Pat Carsrud, John Ames, Tom Carda, Liz Swenson, Dan Swenson, Gay Lynne Ames, Mike Rankin (joined later).

Meeting opened with prayer at 7:05PM.

With the consensus of the council, suspended reading of minutes from the last council meeting.

Presented the new pastorate map. St. Wilfrid has changed from Pastorate 11 to Pastorate 13.

Reviewed Financial reports for end of December 2022. Fr Kevin suggested everyone to take statements home to review and bring concerns at the next meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Status of the tuck pointing - Fr Kevin sent the letter to Bishop DeGrood. Fr Kevin explained that anything over \$10,000 needs to be approved by the bishop. He explained that we have two bids – MCR (\$105,820 & \$10,252) and Heinemann Restoration (\$63,000). He noted that it was 2011 when we got a quote from MCR, at which time it was roughly \$25,000 for the repairs and tucking pointing.

Fr Kevin informed council that St. Wilfrid has been granted a Homeland Security grant for the \$99,000 for mag locks, cameras, and equipment in control room, exit lights, and a generator. Approximately \$25,000 for the generator which would operate the furnaces but not the air conditioning. It was noted that St. Wilfrid is a fallout shelter for the school. Fr Kevin reassured that the parishioners would have fobs for the doors. Jason Howard is going to do the electric work. There are plans to replace the light pole in front of the church.

Cleaning of the church is currently being done by volunteers. A parishioner noticed that one young person had vacuumed the entryway after serving for Mass. Fr Kevin stated that if there is anything missing in cleaning to notify the office or him. There was mention of dead flies in windows, but also stated that that is normal for this time of year.

Fr. Kevin stated there is one more grant to write for an AED. He stated that the parish has EMTs who can check the AED.

Fire Extinguishers have been inspected for the year.

Adoration chapel update – The altar is on the east side of the room. Fr Kevin stated we can go forward with the altar setting. He has plans for an exposed tabernacle of the blessed sacrament.

Eucharistic Revival 2023 is at the diocesan level. Eucharistic Revival for the year of 2024 will be at the level of each location.

Internet phone system is currently being looked at which would work in all locations. More convenient for a phone tree. The diocese is now on the system with the internet systems. Freedom and savings of money. Each phone would cost approximately \$250. One time cost. Free service but have to internet system. Currently, Santel is the internet service for Woonsocket, and Venturecom is the internet service

for Wessington Springs. Midcontinent system is the phone service system. Pastorate plans are anticipated to be linked into the system. More information later.

Equipment in kitchen is failing. Microwave is not working. Microwaves were installed in 2016. Fr Kevin noted that a new microwave from Best Buy would be \$350.

Refrigerators in kitchen now have a thermostats with an alarm. The current problem is that the refrigerators are plugged into a GFI outlet and are tripping, especially when the electric goes out.

Fr Kevin is suggesting a columbarium for the cemetery to create harmony. There is a potential to make some money for the cemetery from a columbarium. The columbarium may have an initial cost of approximately \$30,000 – \$45,000 and then can sell each niche.

Fr Kevin explained the number of the pastorates was reduced by two. The diocese is responsible for 25 parishes. Two are not in the diocesan run. Each pastorate will only have one pastor and an associate. There will be more information on the plan in March.

Tuck pointing of St. Wilfrid was discussed. Fr Kevin informed council that this will go to the Presbyterian council meeting on February 9. Hopefully, we can go forward with the tuck pointing. Fr Kevin reiterated that it is for the pastorate to decide where the main location of the pastorate will be.

The pastorate plan states that a priest can say up to three Masses on a weekend. With St. Charles closed, the amount of Masses will increase for the other locations.

There was discussion of the closure of St Charles and the cemeteries that belong to St. Charles. There was also discussion of Duncan church.

Parish council discussed what the parish council will look like when the pastoral plan is in place. It was pointed out that the Holy Trinity School in Huron is doing very well financially.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Concern of Catholic people joining another church in town. Fr Kevin suggested that we should think about proper evangelizing to bring people back to church. This may start to take place when the pastoral plan is in place.

The option of having Saturday night Mass was discussed. Fr Kevin stated he can say three Masses for the weekend. He said that St. Joseph's consensus was to have Saturday night Mass every other Saturday. He also said that schedule is going to change starting July. Suggestion was to whoever has late Sunday Mass (10:30am) should have Saturday night Mass. A parishioner noted that there will be only five months to have Saturday night Mass till July. Consensus of the council was to have 5:00pm Saturday night Mass for every other week starting February Feb. 18th.

Meeting closed with a prayer at 9.15pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gay Lynne Ames

Executive Secretary of the Parishes