**April 8, 2024 Parish Council Meeting Minutes *Next Meeting May 6th at Father Jay’s House.***

Present: Father Jay, Adam Bruening, Suzanne Finnerty, Sue White, Bob McIlroy, Diane Corrao, Luke Reed, Nathan Frania, Racheal Weaver (phone)

Absent: Zrinka Palmer, Nancy Arndt, Eric Charmley, Aaron Murray

Fr. Jay opened with prayer

**Old Business**:

Family Internet – Zrinka not present

Adam – making progress on IT team. Father Jay sharing contact for IT.

Should Parish Council be involved in staff optimization? - Adam will contact Finance committee the Council’s concerns for their review.

### Crucifix - Suzanne presented cross choices. Need to place in  [plexiglass](https://search.yahoo.com/search;_ylt=AwrFBARdYBVmhAQAcxtXNyoA;_ylu=Y29sbwNiZjEEcG9zAzEEdnRpZAMEc2VjA3Fydw--?fr=mcafee&type=E210US0G0&p=plexiglass&fr2=12642) enclosure to protect. Discussed possibly use a wrap on the wall. Look at other school gyms for an example. Sophia, senior attends Church can paint. Sue and Suzanne will talk with Sophia & Dave Brent.

Patrick O’Hearn March 24th. 3:00 Reception and Book Signing Summary: Everyone liked talks. Good attendance. Patrick had good book sales results and enjoyed being at St. Helens. Confusion about pizza responsibilities. Noone ordered. Corrective action for future events:

Sue submitted a St. Helen Event Request Form and Approval Process. Need one Point Person from Church Council to submit Event Request Form to Staff. All Ministries need to complete the form. Father Jay will present to Staff to review.

How to improve communication within St. Helen’s Ministries:

Suzanne and Father Jay will coordinate time for a gathering with the School Principal, Finance, Staff, Planning and Parish Council. One person from each group to present short (5 min.) talk.

Diane will send minutes to all 3 staff members via email. Staff will post on St. Helen’s Website.

Racheal- Father Greg Bramlage will be giving Parish Mission talk. This is his 3rd session of 3. Dates: Nov. 4, 5, 6th. Same time as Presidential election and 40-hour Adoration. Talk is about 2 hours. Starts with Rosary/Prayer. Will have talk details at next meeting. Father Jay will also review with Father Greg. Possible location in Life Teen Center.

75th Anniversary – 75th Anniversary Picinic. Handout Ideas to be voted on next meeting: 1. Suzanne will design a 75th Anniversary Mug. 2. Rosary (can we use a St. Helen medal, St. Helen’s colors, green and white). 3. St. Helen statue. 4. Book explaining St. Helen’s alter and art work (author Suzanne, thank you!). 5. Families could buy a brick. 6. Reviewing stained glass to replace the clear glass in the Church. Help with sun glare. Suzanne will email summary to Council to research ideas to give aways. Give aways spread out during different events. Example picnic, Father Greg talks, etc.

Hymnals/Missals need replaced. Saint Jean de Brebeuf Hymnal good reviews. One book should include Mass/Readings and Songs. Could we use the Word Among us and a separate Hymnal? Father Jay will review with Jack. Further discussion next meeting.

**New Business:**

Racheal started to make calls regarding a speaker for Lent 2025. Bob suggested a speaker Dan Burke, author.

What is our Budget?

When will we start Renewals? Father Jay said in a couple of years. Maybe when new school is built.

**Suggestion Box:**

1. Invite Patrick Ohearn back for weekend retreat. 2. Parish Council needs to finish what they start. 3.What does Parish Council do? Write an article What Parish Council has accomplished. Implemented Prayer St. Michael, Speakers. Explain what is our mission.

Father Jay closed with prayer