

Our Lady of Peace Parish Finance Council Meeting – November 29, 2022
10:30 am Library Meeting

ATTENDEES: Rev. Mark Baron, Dave Bertram, Mike Clark, Bill Lucas, Kellie Moore -Business Manager - Absent-Sandra Sobotka,

Opening Prayer

Fr. Mark opened the meeting at 10:30 am with a prayer. The October 2022 minutes were reviewed and approved.

Parish Business

1 -Sunday Offertory YTD

The Sunday offertory actual vs budget for FY 22-23 was reviewed. Through the end of week 22 the offertory is at a budget shortfall of \$18,212. November reflected a surplus of \$6,382 and a weekly average of \$19,600. The 22-23 weekly budget is \$18,000. The number of parishioners using the online donation service has remained at 410 donors.

2 – Parish Sunday Offertory Counting Procedures

The council reviewed the procedures for offertory counting and found no areas of weakness or concern. The council members agreed to observe the process each week at this time and report back with any concerns they observe, or the counters convey. Three members will rotate each week until the next finance council meeting. Currently there are four teams of six members, a team captain, and a group of substitutes counters when needed, who rotate each week.

3 – Parish Master Plan

We are in the process of scheduling interviews with approved capital campaign vendors to partner with on our parish center project. We plan to begin interviews in the new year. Newman architecture is working on the construction drawings for the new HVAC system and parish center renovation.

4- Blessing Trees Project

The new 2022 Blessing Tree project will include three ministries that we will partner with to support families in need. Our Lady of Peace Food Pantry, Hope's Front Door and City of Refuge Chicago – West Side Sports have provided us with families that are currently in their programs. The goal is to provide 150 families with Walmart gift cards, unwrapped toys for parents to “shop for” and household items, clothing and toys from family wish lists. The parish will accept monetary donations in addition to the Blessing Tree gift ornament gift cards and wish lists items. All gifts will be delivered or distributed by December 23rd.

5 - YTES Younger Than Ever Seniors

The seniors will have their annual Christmas party at Alpine Banquets on December 12, 2022. The cost is \$20.00 per person and entertainment and lunch will be provided. The seniors group requested to break for the winter months of January and February and resume events in March of 2023. Currently the ministry has 90 registered members.

Pastors Report

6 - Pastoral Council

Fr. Mark continues to meet with his pastoral council and work on a Pastoral Plan and SWOT analysis of the parish. They are assessing the areas of Evangelization, Discipleship, Fellowship, Works of Mercy, and Liturgy.

7 - Nourish for Caregivers

Fr. Mark has partnered with Mt. Carmel parish in Darien to begin a new ministry called Nourish for Caregivers that offers support to people caring for their loved ones. The program will begin in January 2023 at Our Lady of Peace the second Saturday of each month at 8:30 am. The group will be facilitated by the Director of Formation from Mt. Carmel parish and the ministry is open to both parishioners and visitors.

8 - Rescue Project

Fr. Mark has formed a group to begin a new program called The Rescue Project at our Parish. The Rescue Project is a Catholic based program that seeks to proclaim the life saving message of the gospel in a compelling and attractive manner through an 8-week course that allows for small group discussion. The program is free and will begin in February of 2023 and is open to all parishioners and visitors.

9 - Music Ministry

The parish will continue to utilize the talents of various musicians and cantors at this time. Fr. Mark will continue to oversee the music department and the scheduling of professionals

Financial & Other Reports

10 – CMAA

The current amount pledged is \$163,172 which is \$67,372 over our parish goal of \$95,800. The current 2022 rebate back to the parish is \$43,821.

11 – Food Pantry

The October 2022 Food Pantry report was reviewed by the council and the donations cover the cost of the monthly food expense. The ministry is serving 45-55 families each week.

Fr. Mark closed the meeting with a prayer at 12:00 noon
Next Finance Council Meeting – TBD