

## **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: 03/16/26 4:30 PM – 6:00 PM**

Council Members Present: Fr. Fred, Dan, Tim, Barry, Lisa, Deb, Lynne, Leigh Anne, Ben, Joe.

Absent: Fr. Ryan, Wendy

Minutes: Leslie

Opening Prayer: Fr. Fred led the meeting with a prayer followed with reflection among the members.

Review and Approval of Minutes: The minutes from Feb 23, 2026 were approved.

### Membership Terms:

- Tim Maurer and Ben Garcia were welcomed as they attended their first meeting as council members.
- This was Lisa's last meeting of her term on the Parish Council. Fr. Fred and council members expressed their appreciation for Lisa's service. She received a gift in appreciation for her dedication as a council member in serving the St. Bernard Parish community.

### Review of the Planning Calendar for 2026:

- March 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM Adoration Under the Stars following the Divine Mercy devotions at 6:00 PM.
- March 21<sup>st</sup> St. Joseph's Table and Dinner event looking good.
- Busses are available for additional parking areas on Palm and Easter Sunday.
- A gift for parishioners is the book, The Seven Pillars of Catholic Spirituality.
- April 12<sup>th</sup> Easter egg hunt for children between the 9 & 11:00 AM Masses.
- Some events in May: Parish Appreciation dinner May 1<sup>st</sup>; Deacon Phil celebrates his 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Diaconate ministry.
- June 11<sup>th</sup> Fr. Ryan's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his Priestly ministry. Celebration on Father's Day after 11:00 AM Mass.
- Lenten Mission Feedback: Council members shared very positive responses from parishioners attending the retreat with the Dominican Friars of the Angelicum in Rome. Fr. Fred shared many people received the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

### Evangelization/Discipleship – Divine Intimacy/Spiritual Friendship/Witness:

- Hallow Lent Challenge: Fr. Fred is hearing good reports from parishioners following the Lent Challenge on Hallow.
- Christ in Our Neighborhood (CION): Dan reported on April 18<sup>th</sup> there will be a parish breakfast with fellowship time for participants in CION. Across the diocese CION is doing well.
- Extra pages are added to the bulletin at this time.

### Finance Administration update:

- Fr. Fred reported the rectory is moving along.
- Painting needed in the Hall, Office and Church is going well.
- We are waiting for city approval with the shrine project "Star of the Sea."
- We are in process formulizing plans for the playground and waiting for approval from the city.

- Council members suggested possible ways to increase the ease in which cars are moving in and out of the parking lots during Mass times.

Closing Prayer: Fr. Fred ended the meeting with a prayer.

Upcoming Council Meetings: next meeting dates:

- April 20, 2026 4:30 PM
- May 18, 2026 4:30 PM
- June 15, 2026 4:30 PM

Submitted by: Leslie Arnison, recording secretary