

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: 04/20/26 4:30 PM – 6:00 PM

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

Absent: Fr. Ryan

Minutes: Leslie

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

Review and Approval of Minutes: March 16, 2026 minutes were approved.

Review of the Planning Calendar for 2026:

Easter Services and Parish Family events:

- Palm Sunday Masses were full. Easter Sunday Masses also drew full attendance. Parking availability went well with the support of volunteers and some visual signs to direct cars entering and exiting parking areas. An increase this year in the number of children and parents participating in the Easter Story coupled with an egg hunt was noted. The event primarily took place in the parish hall and some extended yard activity.

Looking forward to Fall and Spring:

- April 26th Afternoon event 2:00 PM with Mindaugas Vytus (Manny) will explain his creative process in developing mosaics and other art forms for St. Bernard of Clairvaux parish.
- May 1st Parish Appreciation dinner with the Knights serving and a western theme is moving forward. Wendy, Deb and Lynne will work together creating activities that foster parishioner interaction during the evening.
- May 14th we are expecting a full house for the Notre Dame Baccalaureate Mass.
- May 31st to June 13th Fr. Fred is on a pilgrimage to Italy.
- June 21st Father's Day, after the 11:00 Mass we will celebrate Fr. Ryan's 10th anniversary of his Priestly ministry and Deacon Phil's 40th anniversary of his Diaconate ministry. We will have an opportunity to say farewell to Fr. Ryan.

Suggestion to start Bingo:

- Dan shared that a parishioner inquired as to whether St. Bernard's parish would consider having Bingo events. Deb and Ben will speak with the parishioner to get a better understanding of the kind of Bingo activity that we may consider.

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

- Hallow: Fr. Fred and Councilors reported feedback good during the Lent & Easter on Hallow.
- Christ in Our Neighborhood (CION): This continues to do well.
- We will reduce some extra pages in the bulletin at this time.

Finance Administration update:

- The fence is up to mark the beginning of building the rectory.
- The statue of Our Lady Star of the Sea is completed for the Shrine we are going to build.
- We are waiting for a third bid for the playground in order to make a decision to start this project.
- Update Staff hiring: We are now considering an applicant for the Office Manager/Receptionist position.
- Fr. Ryan – Fr. Don Ours transition will take place June/July.
- June 21st celebration after 11:00 Mass for Fr. Ryan's 10th anniversary Priestly ministry and Deacon Phil's 40th anniversary of his Diaconate ministry.

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

Upcoming Council Meetings: next meeting dates:

- May 18, 2026 4:30 PM
- June 15, 2026 4:30 PM
- No meeting in July

Submitted by: Leslie Arnison, recording secretary