

Parish Council Minutes
Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church
December 14, 2023 – 7 PM

Present: Father Perez, Keith Robinson, Jay Fuller, Eleanor Ames, Irene Sommers, Sharon Booker
Father led us in an opening prayer. The minutes were reviewed and approved.

Old Business

- The October count was 832 with an average of 208 persons attending weekly
- There are now 4 religious education students, 2 of which are preparing for First Communion. They are being taught at home by parents with scheduled meetings to take place with Father.
- Knights of Columbus will be holding a Holy Hour January 18 and again in March
- Reminder that all events need to be put on the calendar so please check with Irene Sommers
- Jay will set up and confirm a March 17 St. Patrick/St. Joseph event. He will not be able to attend on the 17th.

Project Updates – Father Perez (See photos for doors, confessional, portico, and Sanctuary designs)

- We have received the final draft of the new bronze tone church doors (see attached). We will be signing the contract by the end of the month. Total cost: \$21,810 which is about what we expected. It was confirmed the door is made of safety glass
- Confessional will be built in the current library area. Entrance will be from the church as it is now. The musical instruments will be stored in renovated basement.
- Current door will be removed and a window put in. In order to make more room for confessional so as to be ADA compliant, the old bathroom will be removed and converted to storage area. Lights will be installed to signal when confessional is occupied.
- Sanctuary Repair/Renovation – On hold for now but plans for the new confessional and church ceiling were shared. Father has requested an altar rail be included in the plans. We may not be able to have ceiling fans but hope with a new HVAC system they will not be needed. We hope to start sometime next year once the basement is finished.
- John Carlson will be working over the winter to do the mold remediation in the basement. All the things stored in the basement will need to be moved to the storage shed so construction can take place. Keith indicated there may be some old church pews still left in the shed; if so, Father said we will be getting a dumpster during construction to dispose of waste. If old pews are still there, they can be thrown in it.

New Business

- **Christmas Party** – Was very well attended this year. Santa has already been scheduled for next year. Date will be December 1 at the Luray Moose Lodge.
- **Finance Report**
Account Balances as of July 31, 2023:
 - ❖ Checking: \$15,795.84
 - ❖ DIAL Operating: \$1,577,07.22
 - ❖ DIAL Building Fund: \$89,479.91
 - ❖ DIAL Extra Ordinary Dividend: \$158,287.87
- Ladies Council will be decorating the church after their meeting on Wednesday December 20. Their holiday luncheon will be held in January. Flowers will arrive on Saturday and Irene will place them in the church.
- “The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, is not a Holy Day of Obligation this year since it falls on Monday. El will put a note in the Bulletin to clarify. Masses on January 1 will be 9am and 11:15am.

Meeting Dates Scheduled: 2024: (March 14, June 13, September 12, December 12)

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned. Father led us in a closing prayer.
Eleanor Ames, Secretary

