

**Parish Council Minutes - Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church**  
**December 12, 2024 – 7 PM**

Present: Father Perez, Keith Robinson, Kathleen Murphy, Eleanor Ames, Irene Sommers, Sandra Modersohn, Sharon Booker, Rose Ann Smythe, Susan King, Frank Pandolfo. Father led us in an opening prayer. The September minutes were reviewed and approved.

**Finance Report**

- Checking Balance as of Oct. 31: \$8,989.23
- DIAL Operating: \$1,072,939.70
- DIAL Building Fund: \$90,982.89
- DIAL Extra Ordinary Dividend: \$160,946.62

This dedicated amount is currently in the checking account. To be paid to the diocese.

Filipino Shrine: \$ 24,920.22

**Old Business**

- Pastors met Sept. 19 with discussion about sacramental records and forms to be submitted to parish priest for those who are to be sponsors.
- New mandatory Child Protection Program – Circle of Grace. We have this in place now. Families must specifically “Opt Out” and fill out the agreement to attend the training on personal spaces. Church has to provide materials.
- Evaluation of Christmas Party – Changes need to be made in regards to who is to do what. This as well as other parish events should be seen as parish activities, not belonging to one group or another.
- It was suggested we survey of parishioners at the beginning of the year so people can volunteer and sign up to serve on different event committees. They would then be responsible for planning and carrying out the event.
- Bishop coming to OLV Dec. 15 for the 11: 15 Mass. He will then be here for about 45 minutes for a reception/receiving line.

**Project Updates – Father Perez**

- Basement renovation is being done by Ricky Rivera. He gave a quote of \$20,200 and was available to start construction. The project should be completed within the next week or two. Doors with window and lever type handles are needed to meet diocese requirements. New shelving in the storage room. There was discussion about creating exterior stairway to the basement entrance. Follow up needed.
- Confessional is the priority. John Carlson will do construction but we don't have a time line as of yet.
- Sanctuary and Portico – Oh hold for now. Bob Nashed from diocese office needs to follow up on our request.

**New Business**

- A special thank you goes Rose Ann Smythe for her role in coordinating the construction of the new entrance sign to OLV. Now traffic in both directions can easily see our entrance.
- It was noted the window coverings in the parish hall have deteriorated and need replacement.
- Also noted was the fact all our doors are supposed to have a window and lever handle access for diocese safety regulations and ADA requirements.
- Two more listening sessions be held on Thursday, January 9 at 9:30 AM / Sunday, January 12 at 12:30 PM to give parishioners an opportunity to give suggestions and feedback in regards the physical structures of the church.
- We decided to hold more frequent council meetings in order to be ahead in discussions of our needs and issues. We discussed putting in the bulletin our needed income to run the parish each month along with the amounts collected so parishioners have a clear idea of where we are financially. Irene will do the report as a trial run with Council first for a few months.

**Future Meeting Dates:** February 13, April 10, June 12, August 14. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned. Father led us in a closing prayer.

Eleanor Ames, Secretary