

# Parish Council Minutes - Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church

## August 14, 2025 – 7 PM

Present: Father Perez, Keith Robinson, Eleanor Ames, Sharon Booker, Sandra Modersohn, Kathleen Murphy, Susan King, Frank Pandolfo, Jay Fuller, Burrous Snellings

Father led us in an opening prayer. The July Minutes were reviewed and approved.

Final Discussion of Parish Pastoral Council Guidelines: a few suggestions were offered. Father has not heard back from the two priests who are reviewing it. Kathleen will make changes suggested and will finalize the document.

### Ministry Reports

- **Finance Report** – Sharon Booker reported an extra \$126,000 into the DIAL funds came in as a donation to all parishes in the diocese from an anonymous donor.

#### Account Balances as of July 1:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| • Checking Account: \$ 40,849.98              | • Total of Second Collections: \$2,384.02               |
| • DIAL Operating: \$ 1,115,349.55             | • Filipino Shrine: \$ 26,435.22 *                       |
| • DIAL Building Fund: \$ 88,803.50            | • Ladies Council: \$4,044.64 *                          |
| • DIAL Extra Ordinary Dividend: \$ 242,913.31 | • Clergy Stipends: \$ 1,650.00                          |
|   | • Checking Final Balance: \$10,380.74                   |
|   | * Dedicated amounts included in parish checking account |

- **Ladies Council** – Susan King
  1. Ladies Council donated the balance in their account for the concrete paving in front of the church. She noted that a bench would be a nice addition to the area.
  2. Susan stated there were several volunteers signing up to help with various committees after the sign-ups after masses.
  3. Susan will get a written estimate from Lowes for the annex window coverings. Shades should be similar to the ones in the church vestibule.

- **Knights of Columbus** – Burrous Snelling & Jay Fuller

A number of upcoming events and activities were shared. They encouraged participation from all parishioners.

1. St. Michael's Lent – 40 days through Sept. 29. Suggest everyone dedicate something to improve for themselves for the 40 days.
2. Rosary for Immaculate Heart of Mary and Social August 17.
3. September 8 at 6 PM will be induction ceremonies for John Smythe and Kyle Shea.
4. The KOC will continue their "Keep Christ in Christmas" sale for cards and holy objects.
5. Will be sponsoring a wheelchair for someone who cannot afford one.
6. September 27-28: Will hold a Hygiene Closet by collection of goods at Wal-Mart. Chair, Bill Bolton
7. A Baby Bottle Drive will be conducted this fall with parishioners receiving a bottle to fill with spare change throughout the month. Then the collected funds will be donated to the Life Center.
8. A Rosary Rally will be held in late September on Ruffner Plaza.
9. KOC Work Camp will be held at Stonewall Jackson High School next July.

- **Music Ministry** – Sandra Modersohn
  - Sandra stated they were very happy with the new basement practice room. She indicated the choir has grown and if anyone was interested in participating, they should contact her.
  - The Youth Choir is being started and she hope to have them ready for late Sept. or Oct.
  - The Bell Group is seeking new membership as several have moved away and are off to school.
- **Youth Group** – Sandra Reported in Joel's absence
  - The youth group has been divided with younger and older separated for Bible study. They come together for Mass and a meal.
  - Keith stated he is still holding Bible study for older young adults (aged 20-40) on Sunday afternoon from 1-2 pm.
- **Updates from Father Perez**
  - **November Service Project** – Father wants more parishioners to participate in an extra Page One Food Collection; 2) An additional collection for the Life Center, 3) Veterans Day and or Thanksgiving Singing Visits for local nursing homes; 4) Holiday Carols to Senior Center and home bound parishioners.
  - Nick Smith asked Keith about the possibility of us doing "Thanksgiving Packages for Page One" consisting of Canned Ham, Canned Cranberry Sauce, Canned Gravy, Boxed Stuffing Mix, and Mayonnaise. We would collect the first week of November and deliver to Page One on the second week of November.
- **Investigation of New Building Construction Update**
  - We are now in the second stage of investigation process according to the diocese. An interview was conducted with Architect, Nick Carbonneau on August 14. He presented some options for a new building and an alternative of a remodel for the current church. Father was very impressed. There will be a meeting with the Development office on Friday, August 22. The Feasibility Stage was approved by the bishop for \$50,000 for architects.
- **CCD Report**
  - Cheryl Nikirk will be teaching one student for confirmation on May 1 and Father will be preparing one student for First Holy Communion in May. Keith is working with three new candidates for Baptism.
- **Diocesan Jubilee Year Pilgrimage Site:** Father shared the flyer with date for special pilgrimage to St. John Bosco for Mass of Hope on August 26 at 6 PM. Other sites are also mentioned. Visit the diocese website for complete details. [Arlingtondiocese.org/the-holy-year-tour](http://Arlingtondiocese.org/the-holy-year-tour)
- **Final BLA Report:** Our parish exceeded the \$15,000 goal set by the diocese. 59 out of 177 families participated. 90 % have all paid their pledges. Our total BLA collected was \$19,030.

### **New Business**

- September 7 – 1 PM is the date for Parish Picnic. KOC will be grill masters. Youth group will be conducting games. Parishioners have volunteered to assist with setup and clean up. Potluck dishes to be provided by parishioners.
- It was mentioned by Jay Fuller that Ethan Williams will begin at St. John Paul Seminary and that KOC will be supportive of him and we should all keep him in our prayers.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned with a prayer.

Future meetings scheduled are October 9, and December 11 at 7 PM.

Eleanor Ames, Secretary