

Parish Council Minutes January 8th 2025

Wednesday, January 8, 2025 5:05 PM

Christ the King Parish Council Meeting Minutes January 8, 2025

1. Call to Order (Jen)
 - a. Time: 7:03p
2. Roll Call (Pete)
 - a. Fr. Jon, Jen Barker, John Kearney, Pete D'Antonio, Jen Coelho, Mariann Gilbride, Colleen Hirst, Theresa Woodward, Andrew Miller
3. Opening Prayer/Question of the Week (Fr. Jon)
 - a. Question: How has someone been a guide to you for truth, beauty, and goodness?
4. Approval of Minutes (Jen)
 - a. Motion: John
 - b. Seconded: Colleen
5. Committee Reports
 - a. **Liturgy**
 - i. Rosary room has furniture added to it
 - ii. Christmas Mass attendance 3,000 people across all 7 services
 - b. **Faith Formation**
 - i. Summary of Parish Survey + Parent Feedback on Religious Ed
 - Catechists who don't feel supported by parents are having increasing behavior issues in their classes.
 - Proposal - We should have a more formalized behavior policy where students are referred to home school program after repeated issues in class.
 - The number of survey respondents is low and will give us lower-quality feedback over time.
 - Proposal - Incorporate the parent survey in some of the workshops or in-person sessions to increase participation.
 - Survey needs to be anonymous.
 - Needs to be a summary given to the parents on what actions are being taken to maintain credibility.
 - The Sadlier textbook presents sound information. However, it reads like a history book and doesn't include the evangelization element.
 - Proposal - Seek a way to elevate scripture stories and the liturgy into the program. Books must be approved by USCCB.
 - Alternatives will be sought for the next meeting.
 - Some parents seeking improved communication
 - Proposal - Consider moving all forms and correspondence to email and website if they aren't already. Should be a cadence that's monthly.
 - Confirmation packet is still a physical document that needs

review.

- o Catechists expected to send more regular correspondence to parents
- o Catechist retreat could be helpful in increasing the classroom experience.
- o Fr. Jon will look to hire a communication assistant to improve the family experience.

c. Social Justice

- i. Donation to the neighborhood center of ~\$10k from recent appeal
- ii. Classes start next week for ESL
- iii. January 20th Inauguration frustrations and anxiety is palpable at the SSJNC
- iv. Bring a buddy to the neighborhood center program will begin.
- v. Souls Shot Project will share at the 9a and 11a Mass to discuss the lives of individuals impacted by gun violence.

d. Representative to Haddonfield Council of Churches

- i. MLK worship service, at Mt. Olivet Church in Haddonfield the day before the holiday
- ii. State provided emergency preparedness plan, religious response to a tragedy being developed.

6. Old Business

- a. Religious Education - DMI report, possible diocesan changes
 - i. Covered in previous agenda item: Faith Formation

7. New Business

- a. Parish Values Statement - Value statement is designed to tell people who we are
 - i. Mutual Discernment - Annual reviews for volunteer ministry leaders is an core and intentional at CTK. Each ministry leader has a liaison in the parish office.
 - ii. Tone of document could be softened to reflect parish environment
 - iii. Funnel approach to group events, each have value to our parishioners. The parish will prioritize small groups but the section could be worded differently. Talk about emphasizing community.
 - iv. Things to keep: cruise ship metaphor, orthodoxy
- b. Pastor's update re: weddings
 - i. Parish Council endorsed Father to manage his wedding schedule as needed, for his best interest and that of the parish.
 - ii. Proposal to raise the current wedding fee to reflect current costs. (Referred to Liturgy Committee)
- c. Andrew - 24/7 Adoration for a week
 - i. Sent to Liturgy Committee for consideration
- d. Lent retreat
 - i. Fr. Gallagher was considered but will not be added to the calendar for April.
 - ii. Liturgy Committee to discuss moving the parish mission to Lent for

better attendance.

iii. Suggestions being taken for parish mission.

8. Closing Prayer (Father John)

9. Adjournment