

**Parish Council Minutes**  
**Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church**  
**May 4, 2025**

**Present:** Father Oscar, Tiffany Smith, Bob Ryalls, Kay Shaw, Terry Frederick, Jim Vadas

**Additional Visitors Present:** None

**Meeting Called to Order:** Tiffany called the meeting to order.

**Prayer:** Tiffany led with a prayer.

1. **Minutes:** Minutes from the April 30, 2025 meeting were approved
2. **Haitian Ministry:** No further information.
3. **Funeral food:** Kay was to reach out to Pam for names.
4. **Organ repairs:** Waiting on a couple more parts. Insurance will hopefully pay for the damage. New circuit board only for the organ with additional outlets and surge protection. Electrician to do. Comment was also made on need to replace outside security light on church side of Boogaard Hall.
5. **Network Extension:** With possibility of wireless connectivity between parish buildings, the \$5,000 budgeted project "wired" network project has been postponed indefinitely by the Finance Council. Hot spots will continue to be used in the interim.
6. **Cultural Prayer Gardens:** This summer is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Parish sponsorship of the first Vietnamese family, the Duong's. We would like to have at least the Vietnamese portion of the gardens completed by then. Jim is working with Eston and Jose as leaders of the teams working on this. Jim is also talking to Father Oscar and Annie Bui and Francis Duong about what the family might want to do in recognition of the anniversary of the first Vietnamese family's arrival. The family arrived in mid-August of 1975.
7. **International Dinner:** Jim reviewed the results of the dinner.
8. **Parish scholarship:** We have two applications. The scholarship process should probably start in January to allow more time to get applications out and for students to work on them.
9. **Mother's Day Procession to the hall:** Plans are to process with the Blessed Mary statue to the hall for hospitality. Please bring finger food.
10. **Fraudulent checks:** A check will be coming from the insurance company for settlement of part of the money the parish lost for \$26,000+ less deductible (approximately \$1,000). We are using "Positive Pay" now in our check writing. The cost is \$30 per month to review all checks and approve or not approve a check. Bob said we have already caught two fraudulent checks using this system. Three parishioners are making themselves available to review checks: Bob, Joe Drexler, and Jackie Silvia. There is a 3-hour window for one of these to review the checks.
11. **Budgets:** Bob said the budget was submitted to Finance Council the previous week, via Rich Duke. The budget is due to the Diocese May 16. **NOTE: The Finance Council is down to three persons:** Rich Duke, Jackie Silvia, and Bill Madigan. Let Father Oscar know who he could talk to about filling Finance Council seats and he will talk to those individuals.
12. **Money Counters:** Forms used for Tuesday morning money counting have been modified to agree with Bob's discussion with the Diocese. There is also a form to fill out when money is collected after all masses.
13. **Hall Rental person:** Janice McGowan will no longer be involved in hall rentals after May 31<sup>st</sup>. There have been no volunteers stepping forward after many pulpit and bulletin appeals. Hall rentals are a significant income for the Parish, approximately \$8,000 per year. Discussion of finding a property manager or rental agent ensued where such a person would get a percentage for handling the rental.
14. **Website:** Jon Jackson has updated and redone the website and it looks great.
15. **Baccalaureate services:** Services are being held at OLBS Sunday, May 18, by the Ministerial Association at 7:00 pm with a reception to follow. They are expecting half of the seniors to attend. The concert band and choir is to perform.
16. **Committee and Council Reports to Parish Council:** In the past years, committees and councils would report to Parish Council meetings on what they were doing or working on. Furthermore, about a year ago, it was agreed to have the Parish Council, Finance Council and Facilities Committee hold a combined meeting quarterly or at some interval.

Next meeting will be May 18<sup>th</sup>, early due to Memorial Day weekend, and for the need to address the VDB hall rental person situation.

Father Oscar closed the meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Jim Vadas, Secretary