

Minutes of the Parish Council — January 31, 2023

Members present were, Joe Catania, Isidro Chavez Jr, Susie Bunyard, Fr. Stephen and Fernand Larranaga

Meeting started at 4:30pm in the Rectory with an opening prayer by Fr. Stephen.

Then the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting of August 10 were read by Fernand with a follow up of the progress of some decisions made at that meeting.

Then the new affairs were discussed.

1. A good evaluation was done on the impact of the Children's Mass and of the Bilingual Mass.
2. The Council was concerned about the reduced parish finances; therefore it was decided that it is appropriate for the Finance Committee to give an update of the financial report to the members of the parish.
3. Discussed changing the locks to rectory and hall doors and replacing them with a keypad lock to restrict the number of people having access to them, especially at odd hours.
4. Discussed how some young and new parishioners are already stepping forward to take up the tasks of the parish. Council was happy about them and also agreed that it should be further encouraged.
5. Discussed Bishop Soto's arrival on April 30 for the Mass of Confirmation and getting the parish ready for the event. Some of the decisions taken were, (1) to have a bilingual Mass as there are also Hispanic children in the group; (2) to have parents of the children to be confirmed host a pot-luck breakfast after the Mass; (3) to cancel the 8:30 am Mass at Cedarville.
6. A big thanks to the Bunyards for all the hard work they do for St. James Church. All Council members appreciate them.
7. Isidro Chavez Jr. was invited by the Council to think of innovative ways to encourage the Hispanic community to participate more in the church liturgy and activities.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30pm with a closing prayer by Fr. Stephen.