

1. **The meeting convened with Opening Prayer at 6:05**
2. **Roll Call –**
 - a. *Present:* Louise Beauchemin, Margaret Beauchemin, Flor Bonilla, Susan Cannon, Deacon Correa, Miguelina Correa, Anna Evans, Carin Geoffrey, Darryl Geoffrey, John Kelley, Trish Lamagdeleine (T), Dora Lopez, Jennie McGiverin, Michael Moriarty, Mary Ellen O'Connor, Fr. Francis Reilly, Virgen Viera
 - b. *Absent:* Paula Conway
3. **Review and Acceptance of Minutes from Last Meeting**
The minutes from the October 10, 2023 meeting were reviewed and accepted.
4. **ONGOING BUSINESS**
 - a. John Kelley reported that the 2023-2024 budget has been approved. The budget has the parish operating at a loss, with parish real estate costs contributing to that deficit.
 - b. Communion Breakfast – Mary Ellen provided a summary of the Communion Breakfast which was deemed a success and the income just covered the expenses.
 - c. Votive lights for November – 458 Candles were sold.
 - d. Historical Commission – Holyoke Mayor “proposed” that the city take over the church to avoid demolition. Next city meeting is 11/21 5:30 PM.
 - e. Altar inventory - Postponed until January or later. Flor proposed that any used but useable items we might want to get rid of could be sent to the Dominican Republic.
 - f. Holyoke Parishes – Louise and Mary Ellen met with all 3 pastors and Kelly O'Connor, DRE Blessed Sacrament. They discussed some ideas such as a Fun Family Trivia Night in January and Sharing each other's Mass schedules on our websites.
 - g. RCIA program – Discussion has been tabled for now
 - h. Irish Night – The council was advised that the JPPII center is available on the date of the Irish Night and has met the necessary building codes, particularly regarding a sound system shut off, if the Irish Night Committee would like to consider a change in venue.
 - i. Many members of the council participated in a general discussion regarding the council policies, procedures and effectiveness. Many of the remaining agenda items (Feast of Guadalupe, All Saints Day Fiesta, Eucharistic Adoration, Greeting Cards, Parish Christmas Donations and Council Membership) were not discussed as a result
5. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - a. Appreciation Dinner – Will be held on December 14 for all REGULAR Parish Volunteers by invitation only. Lists should be provided to Mary Ellen O'Connor by 11/21 Tickets will be distributed.
 - b. All are invited to the Agape event on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. A bilingual explanation of Agape was distributed to the council.
 - c. Thanksgiving Mass will be held at 9 AM in St. Jerome Church. Loaves of bread will be distributed to families attending the Mass.
6. **Comments for the Good of the Council**
7. **Next Meeting Particulars**
Next meeting is scheduled for: December 12, 2023 – Tuesday, 6 PM
(Subsequently cancelled – next meeting will be January 9, 2024 – Tuesday, 6 PM)
8. **Closing Prayer**
Fr. Reilly led a closing prayer
9. **Adjournment**
The meeting was adjourned