

# St. Francis de Sales Pastoral Council

## Meeting Minutes

### August 3, 2021

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#### **Attendees:**

Maddie Frick	Nikki Gorski	X	Gloria Morales	X	Patrick Perkins
X Sally Raphael	Isabel Sans	X	Cynthia Santiago		Gabriele Segletes
Diane Traube	X Denise Walsh	X	Jim Wilson	X	Deacon Chuck Hoppe
Deacon Carlos Morales	Deacon Jim Sullivan		Fr. Jaime Garcia	X	Martine Uveges

**The Meeting came to order at: 7:05pm**

**Opening Prayer:** Jim W led everyone in the Pastoral Council Prayer

**Approval of Minutes:** Denise motioned to approve the June minutes; Patrick seconded; all approved.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**June/July Small Group Discussions:** Jim W's group and Gabriele's group were unable to meet. Patrick's group (with Denise, Sally, and Martine) met at 6:15p prior to this August council meeting.

- Denise commented that with the COVID-19 Delta variant, the Mass attendance number will continue to be low. People are still hesitant.
- With no music at the 8a Mass, people are going to St. Ignatius or St. Margaret's. Patrick reminded everyone that no music at the 8a Mass is temporary.
- Access to parking will be a struggle with the bridge construction for two years.
- Deacon Chuck said the Mass schedule is restricted by having only one priest. Besides St Francis de Sales (SFdS), Fr. Bill O'Brien also helps at St. Patrick's on Saturday and Sunday. Mass cannot be prior to 4p on Saturday for it to count for the Sunday obligation.
- Cynthia said people are set in their ways, and they were frustrated that they were not consulted regarding the Mass time changes at both SFdS and Prince of Prince (PoP).
- Jim W offered that it would be good to reiterate communications regarding the Mass time changes, music at Masses, and the ongoing bridge construction. Patrick said the communications could be in the bulletin, from the pulpit, and via flocknotes. Deacon Chuck wondered whether people read the online or paper bulletin or any of these communications. Denise suggested the FAQs could be displayed on the TVs in the Narthex.
- Patrick shared that during the COVID-19 pandemic, people found choices for Masses at other churches.
- Jim W and Gloria remembered that people liked being welcomed before and after Mass in the Narthex, which we have not been able to do during the pandemic.
- Cynthia, Denise, and Deacon Chuck reported that it is hard to hear in the back of the church, especially on the right side. Perhaps this would be helped if the speakers were adjusted.
- Patrick and Deacon Chuck said that some people prefer to sit in the Narthex with masks and to distance themselves. Jim W said safety is important for parishioners.

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- Deacon Chuck relayed that Fr. Jaime says on Sept 1<sup>st</sup>, SFdS will go back to pre-pandemic functioning unless the Archdiocese guidance changes.

Patrick suggests that the small groups continue to meet and discuss the same topics including what is meant by the Connections pillar, and that all three small groups meet at 6:15p prior to the Sept Council meeting in different areas of Kilduff hall. Those in Group 1 (Patrick, Jim W, Maddie, Diane), Group 2 (Denise, Isabel, Gabriele, Martine), and Group 3 (Nikki, Cynthia, Sally, Gloria) should plan to arrive early on Sept 7<sup>th</sup> and discuss feedback from parishioners on the reopening, any concerns regarding the lifting of dispensation of attending Mass in person, and their thoughts for what is meant by Connections.

**Council Membership Resignation:** Jim announced that Liz Gonzalez resigned from the Council. Her selected position with a 2-year term can be filled by suggestions from the Pastoral Council.

**Update on the Bridge Construction:** Jim reported that the light has been adjusted to give 30 (instead of 10) seconds of green for the 30 minutes at the end of all Masses (eg 9-9:30a) and at the end of bingo.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Brainstorm Open Positions:** Kathy Batdorf suggested Gail Grady might be her replacement on the Council. Diane contacted Gail Grady to discuss her joining the Council representing Service, and Gail has declined. Diane sent an email to Fr. Garcia and Danny Cajigas with all the information from Kathy and the fact that someone is needed to head up Service. That email also included the need for a lead for Our Daily Bread casseroles, as Kathy wanted to discontinue doing that as well. Everyone should think about who could be suggested to fill the open Council positions.

**Connections – ideas for bringing people back to church:** Denise asked Fr. Jaime for his thoughts on what the Connections position should do, and he said he wanted to think about it yet. Deacon Chuck suggested that Denise put her thoughts in writing and share that with Fr. Jaime to clarify, who will get back with her. Martine pointed out the groups listed under the Connections pillar in Appendix A of the Pastoral Council Constitution and By Laws. Deacon Chuck said those were a good start and could be added to.

**Bingo Update:** Jim shared that 100 people attended the bingo on July 16<sup>th</sup>, the first since it was shut down due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Everyone was ecstatic to be back, and \$1,400 was raised. The next bingo will be held in a few weeks on Friday, Aug 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Development Committee Update:** Jim reported that his replacement is still needed, and there are a couple people yet to be approached about leading the Development Committee. The general collections are OK; the recovery needs to continue.

**Council Meetings:** The group chose to continue meeting in person in Kilduff Hall in Sept.

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#### **CLERGY ITEMS AND UPDATES:**

Deacon Chuck relayed some announcements from Fr. Jaime.

- *Continuing Changes at Mass* - The blue tape will be removed, and offertory processions will be coming back.
- *Director of Music Ministry* - This position is posted.
- *Liz Gonzalez* - Her last day in the parish office is Aug 31<sup>st</sup>.
- *Adult Faith Formation assistant* – This person will assist with Sacraments and Faith Formation. Diane Alvarez starts on Aug 16<sup>th</sup>. Angie Rebbert is doing K-8 education.
- *RCIA* – Deacon Chuck will be doing RCIA for both SFdS and PoP together.

***Liturgy Committee:*** Patrick reported that the SFdS and PoP Liturgy Committees have been meeting jointly and are working well together. Deacon Chuck noted that the first reading, responsorial psalm, second reading, gospel acclamation, and gospel are set by the USCCB, and the entrance antiphon is optional. Patrick said that an announcement will be provided for the cantor to read at the beginning of Masses indicating where Mass readings can be found in the book in the pews. He also noted that the reflections have moved away from the readings to provide more catechesis.

***Parish Life Announcements:*** Cynthia let everyone know about upcoming events around the parish:

- *Nun Run to help the Little Sisters of the Poor* – It is virtual again this year, and the Knights of Columbus Ladies are also hosting the walk/run event on the grounds of SFdS on Saturday, Sept 11 from 8-11a. It is open to anyone in the parish.
- *Bingo* – The next bingo will be Aug 20<sup>th</sup>; doors open at 6p.
- *Shadow Players* – Their first radio show is online or on Facebook beginning on Friday, Aug 13<sup>th</sup> at 8p and continues through Friday, Aug 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Meeting Adjourned** by Jim at 8:25pm

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Deacon Chuck said a closing prayer in thanks for a spirit-filled meeting and gave everyone his blessing.

Respectfully submitted,

Martine Uveges, Secretary