

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CHURCH

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Minutes, May 5, 2021 – Virtual Meeting

I. ROLL CALL

Monsignor Gentili, Matt Gavinelli, Dominique Galloway, Lisa Martinez, Juan Navia, Deacon Brady, Emily Clementi, Paul Crovo, Mike Broglie, Ray Lokay, Leo Craig

Excused: Dan Drain, Lisa Kopertowski, Paola Cubides Herrera, Father Ianelli, Chip Puchino, Carol Kalouche

Recording Secretary: Teresa Fischer

II. OPENING PRAYER

Monsignor expressed his gratitude to both the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) and the Parish Finance Council (PFC) for their support in helping the parish to continue to fulfill its mission. He shared today's gospel from John 15, 1-8. *Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower."* Monsignor emphasized the theme of always staying connected. Attendees prayed an Our Father.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

(March 3, 2020)

Matt Gavinelli asked for a motion to approve the March 3, 2021 minutes. Mike Broglie motioned and Juan Navia seconded the motion. The members of the committee unanimously approved the minutes. Teresa will post on the website.

IV. STRATEGIC PLAN

The PPC and PFC are working together to finalize the new Strategic Plan (2021-2026) which will prioritize new initiatives and develop a more specified plan for 2021-2026. We will continue to monitor and strengthen initiatives from the Strategic Plan Tracker that have already been completed. The PPC and PFC will officially sign off on the new Strategic Plan at the Combined Meeting of the Parish Councils in June 2021.

V. **STREAM TEAM UPDATE Teresa/Matt**

The first meeting of the newly formed Stream Team was recently held. The new volunteers are already receiving instruction on how to work the cameras. Monsignor emphasized that livestreaming is an important part of parish evangelization and we will continue to evangelize to those that are watching via livestream and encourage them into full discipleship.

VI. **CELEBRATING GROWTH MINISTRY FAIR UPDATE**

The PPC is considering hosting a ministry fair in early June.

VII. **CHURCH REPAIR PROJECTS**

Our church is now 10 years old and there are several important projects that are necessary. These include lighting in the church, HVAC insulation, exterior wood repairs, back parking lot lighting and bell tower repair. The PFC is assisting with project management for these projects and in evaluating the funds on hand. The parish will focus on the three most important projects, which are lighting in the church (partial), HVAC insulation and repair of the bell tower.

VIII. **GREETERS AT CHURCH**

Because of the pandemic, many of our volunteers at weekend Mass are not attending Mass or are not comfortable volunteering. In particular, Monsignor would like to revitalize the extremely important Hospitality Ministry and have greeters back at weekend Masses. As people return to church we want to make sure that they have a positive, welcoming experience and that they will continue to come to Mass.

Monsignor emphasized that the greeters, livestreaming and evangelization are very important areas on which he would like to focus.

IX. **IDEAS TO INCREASE ATTENDANCE/RETURN TO NORMAL**

Currently, our parish Mass attendance is approximately at 50 percent of what it was prior to the pandemic. Compared to other local parishes OLG is comparable as far as Mass attendance and donations. Monsignor added that OLG is on the cutting edge with how we have handled the pandemic and ministered to our parishioners and beyond.

The council discussed ways to encourage people to come back to Mass. The AOP recently announced the launching of a new program called “Nothing Compares to Being There” which is a diocese-wide campaign to encourage those who were attending Mass prior to the pandemic to come back. This campaign will be launched in September and Monsignor would like to follow the lead of the AOP.

Other suggestions included an outreach video (possible revision of Welcome Back video), a direct mail campaign, social media and continued livestreaming.

X. OTHER COMMITTEE UPDATES/NEW BUSINESS

Legacy Campaign

Monsignor provided an update on the Legacy Campaign. The campaign is committed to raising \$3 to \$5 million to offset the parish debt. So far, the Legacy Campaign has raised \$800K in cash and \$1.8 million in pledges. The PFC will be rolling out the next tier of the campaign in the fall.

PPC and PFC Appointments

Monsignor is asking all members of the PPC and PFC to stay in their positions for the next year. He appreciates everyone's service throughout the pandemic and would prefer to keep the same council members for the next year. All members present at the meeting agreed to continue to serve.

Hispanic Ministry Update

Paola provided an update on the Hispanic Ministry. Integration of the Hispanic Community with the parish has been the main goal. One highlight of this past year was celebrating four bilingual Masses. In addition, members of this community are now becoming even more involved in our parish such as taking on the role of sacristan. Members of the Hispanic Community are already involved in many other parish ministries including lectors, youth ministry, Health and Wellness Ministry, PREP and more.

Our Hispanic Ministry program has become a model for other parishes in the AOP. Bishop Deliman asked Paola and Monsignor to advise other local parishes on how to develop a Hispanic Ministry.

XI. NEXT MEETING

Combined Meeting of the Parish Councils, June 16, 2021

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting, Wednesday, September 22, 2021

XII. CLOSING PRAYER

Monsignor prayed for the health and wellbeing of all council members and their families. The council prayed the Hail Mary.