

**St. Francis de Sales Pastoral Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**August 28, 2018**

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**Attendees:**

Jim Wilson	X	Herman Bush	X	William Countess	X	Eleanor Fisher	X
Nikki Gorski	X	Iris Hernandez	X	Alice Long		Patrick Perkins	
Larry Shannahan		Ray Traube	X	Deacon Jim Sullivan		Fr. Jack Ward	X
Fr. Jaime Garcia		Martine Uveges	X	William Bankert	X		

**The Meeting came to order at: 7:04pm**

**Opening Prayer:** The Lord's Prayer led by Father Jack Ward

**Approval of Minutes:** Ray motioned to approve the May and June meeting minutes; Fr. Jack seconded.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Donut Sundays:** Ray contacted those who currently sponsor Donut Sundays and asked them these questions to learn more about the current program:

1. Why do you or your Organization host a Donut Sunday? What is the underlying reason you do this?
2. Do you think it is well attended? Has the size of the attendees dwindled or increased, in your opinion?
3. Why do you think people come (or don't come) to Donut Sunday?
4. Do you have enough people to man the event? Do you get enough every time you host one?
5. Do you think the location, logistically, is an issue?
6. Does the weather play a role in attendance?
7. Are there any observations / issues / concerns?
8. Do you have any questions for us?
9. Do you have any suggestions?

Ray summarized the responses indicating that some groups do well and have a good turnout, others felt attendance has dwindled and weather and other factors may play a part, and others provided alternate suggestions. (Attached are the email responses). Jim W said the Council could be a leader group, and Fr. Jack said he would buy the donut holes. The group decided to coordinate a Donut Sunday on Sept 9<sup>th</sup> in the Narthex and re-evaluate afterwards. Herman will work out the logistics to get donut holes from Dunkin' Donuts, set up two tables in the Narthex behind the chairs, provide napkins (and no beverages), and arrange for cleanup.

**TV in the Narthex:** Jim Wilson reported that Deacon Jim is reluctant to spend money on a TV for the Narthex. Jim W said he would purchase the two TVs. He needs the specifications from Rob Hardy, who is willing to hook up the TVs. Regarding content to display, Fr. Jack suggested that information from Flocknotes, the bulletin, and the upcoming Alpha program could be displayed, and Iris suggested our

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youth should be more involved. The content and who will coordinate information on the TVs will be further discussed at the Sept meeting.

*5 Year Plan:* Jim Wilson said that we need to get with ministry leaders to start thinking about the needs of their ministries, what resources may be needed, and in what timeframe. Jim has a previous 5 Year Plan and wants to review this with Fr. Jaime first, and then with Fr. Jack, to identify what information should be gathered and what the best format would be.

**MINISTRY REPORTS:**

***Connections:*** No report

***Faith Formation:*** Nikki Gorski and Eleanor Fisher reported:

- Faith Formation is kicking off for the 2018-2019 academic year. They are looking to develop a path for parishioners to become catechists.
- Middle School classes begin Sept 24 & 25.
- High School classes begin the first week of Oct. A new Faith and Culture class will be offered for first year Confirmation students. This could be rolled out for adults, as these new classes are on current topics and are well received.
- Pre-school is also starting up

***Latino Community:*** Iris reported that the Latino community was very involved with the parish picnic, and choir starts Thursday, Aug 30.

***Liturgy:*** Herman noted that the Liturgy committee has not met recently; they should be meeting every 3 months.

***Parish Life:*** No report

***Service:*** Bill Countess reported (see report attached):

- Our Daily Bread - 77 casseroles delivered July 8; 77 casseroles delivered Aug 12
- Outreach June: 125 clients, 122 food bags provided, 47 families financially assisted
- Outreach July: 127 clients, 131 food bags provided, 57 families financially assisted
- Sharing Table on Sat, July 28: 100 meals served to 76 clients; 10 SVDP volunteers assisted
- Let's Do Lunch – 50 lunches distributed in July; 55 lunches distributed in August
- Funeral Lunches: on June 16 – 3 volunteers served 14 attendees; on June 30 – 5 volunteers served 50 attendees; on Aug 14 – 6 SVDP volunteers assisted 45 attendees
- Homeless Shelter – Jim Wilson shared that Rose Pollis needs volunteers. Bill explained that SFdS helps with the Homeless Shelter on the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. Volunteers help make lunches the day before, some make breakfast on the 20<sup>th</sup>, and the youth fix dinner. Bill will ask Rose where

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she needs help. He will also contact Rebecca to put a request for help in the bulletin and on Flocknotes.

- Bingo - Jim W noted that 7-10 new volunteers are helping work Bingo besides those from the Council. He encouraged everyone to invite parishioners to come and help with simple tasks at Bingo including putting a smile on the faces of people who look for an enjoyable evening out.

**Stewardship:** Jim Wilson reported that the second meeting of the Development Committee was Mon, Aug 27. They are prioritizing the parish needs, trying to develop a brochure, and considering what the target could be for fundraising (eg \$50,000 or \$100,000). There will be another 'step-up' campaign in the Fall and fund-raising dinners sometime after January 2019.

**Youth:** Eleanor Fisher and Nikki Gorski reported:

- Youth attended two trips to Guppy Gulch, a favorite outing
- Aug 26 - Parish Picnic with all 3 parishes at Flying Point Park starting with Mass at 11a. Youth focused on preparations for the events/activities, liturgy, logistics, and marketing.
- Oct 5 – The Dingo (dinner / bingo), the primary fund raiser, will be held Fri, Oct 5.
- The BYCC (Baltimore Youth Catholic Conference) will be held in Ellicott City in the Fall.

#### **GOOD OF THE COUNCIL:**

*Parish Picnic:* All 3 parishes enjoyed a great time on Sunday, Aug 26 at Flying Point Park. All the planning and preparation by the youth and Latino parishioners was evident and appreciated.

*Faith Fest:* The archdiocese Harford County Faith Fest will be on Sun, Sept 16, at the Equestrian Center. Patrick drafted a design for a banner for the St Francis de Sales parish table at the event (see attached). Nikki will contact Diane Lewis about finding one of the youth who could make the banner. Iris suggested that multi-cultural be used instead of Latino to describe our community; all agreed, since parish members include those from multiple cultures including Africa and South America. Multiple members of the Pastoral Council have volunteered to help at the event.

*Alpha:* The Alpha program, which is a follow up to the successful Christ Life programs, will be held on 7 consecutive Thursday evenings, 6:30p to 9p, at Prince of Peace Parish starting Sept 27. It will follow a similar pattern of fellowship, video presentation and faith sharing including dinner, beverages, and dessert (see attached flyer).

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Hail Mary led by Jim Wilson

**Meeting Adjourned** by Jim Wilson at 8:24pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Martine Uveges, Secretary