

**St. Francis de Sales Pastoral Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**January 22, 2019**

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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	X	Patrick Perkins	X
Larry Shannahan		Ray Traube	X	Deacon Jim Sullivan	X	Fr. Jack Ward	X
Fr. Jaime Garcia	X	Martine Uveges	X	William Bankert		Dan Zankowitz	X

**The Meeting came to order at: 7:01pm**

**Opening Prayer:** Led by Fr. Jack Ward

**Approval of Minutes:** Ray motioned to approve the November meeting minutes; Bill C seconded.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Elections:** Bill C reported that three people have submitted their nomination form to run for election to the Pastoral Council: Sally Raphel, Diane Traube, and John Young. Ray said people should urge John Campo to run. Elections will be the first week in February 2019.

**Pastoral Council Voting Member Composition:** Jim W passed out a matrix (see attached) and talked about the Pastoral Council composition. There are 6 people (Bill C, Larry, Eleanor, Ray, Iris, and Alice) going off the Council and 4 open elected positions, which are a mix of 2-year and 1-year terms. There is one open appointed position for which Fr. Jack can identify someone to fill. The voting members of the Pastoral Council discuss and approve people to fill the selected positions. The parish at large votes on people to fill the elected positions.

Fr. Jack expressed interest in appointing Iris to the **Latino Community Selected position**. Fr. Jaime would like to have another person fill this position to get others involved. Fr. Jack said Liz Gonzales (Cajigas) may be interested. Fr. Jaime will ask Liz if she would fill the Latino Community Selected position. Fr. Jaime shared an idea that Iris, who is bilingual, could work with the Spanish children and their parents to get them involved with CLOW (Children’s Liturgy of the Word). Iris is committed to helping the parish in any capacity.

Deacon Jim said Kathy Batdorf is interested in filling the **Service Selected position**. Ray agreed that Kathy is organized and a good person for this position. Nikki motioned to have Kathy fill the Service position; Herman seconded; all approved.

Deacon Jim said Patty Smith, who currently works with the parish Outreach endeavors, is interested in being on the Pastoral Council, and he proposed that she fill the **Connections Selected position**. She understands the needs in the parish, and she can communicate with people as needed. Fr. Jack expressed interest in having an Evangelization Selected position. Deacon Jim likes having Evangelization under the Connections area, and Ray reminded all that the Ministry Areas are defined by the Archdiocese. Dan Zankowitz, who joined the meeting later, was suggested by Larry as his replacement

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to lead the Evangelization Committee, and Fr. Jack supports this. Positive comments about Dan were shared: Patrick said Dan participated in Christ Life and Alpha, is outspoken, and wants to get involved; Ray said Dan thinks outside the box; Fr. Jaime said Dan has qualities that would be good for evangelization efforts. Deacon Jim and Nikki thought Patty Smith, in the Connections Selected position, could provide guidance for Dan as he becomes more familiar with his new role. To address Fr. Jack's interest in having Dan fill the Evangelization position and be a member of the Council, an idea was shared whereby Patty would fill the Connections Selected position, and Dan, as head of the Evangelization Committee, could be asked to attend all the Pastoral Council meetings. Ray offered that Fr. Jack could appoint Dan to the Council. Fr. Jack offered to Dan that he be appointed to the Pastoral Council. Jim W and Patrick will talk with Dan after the meeting to see if he will accept Fr. Jack's appointment to the Pastoral Council. Bill C motioned to have Patty Smith fill the Connections position; Ray seconded; all approved.

*5 Year Plan:* Jim W passed out the draft 5 Year Plan. This is a raw document with different styles from the contributors; some items are strategic, and some are tactical. To date, no plans have been received from the Connections group or the Latino Community. These will be forthcoming. Jim W, Herman, and Martine will work with the multiple groups to synthesize the plan to include strategic objectives and goals.

*Pastoral Council Retreat:* Jim W reminded everyone that the retreat to be held on Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9a-5p in the Knights Hall will include council members, staff, and clergy. There will be a spiritual retreat in the morning, lunch, team building, and a review of the 5 Year Plan in the afternoon. Each Ministry Area can have 15-20 minutes for discussion and question/answers, with the goal of learning how to move forward as a parish. The Council will not meet in February; the next meeting will be the retreat on March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

#### **MINISTRY REPORTS:**

***Faith Formation:*** Nikki Gorski reported (see report attached):

- Middle School – Winter session resumed on January 8 and runs for 6 weeks.
- High School – Spring session resumes on March 4 with Science & Religion options.
- Confirmation – Diane is working with Confirmation candidates, their parents, and sponsors to get them engaged and involved in service.
- Keep Christ in Christmas magnets – The Knight of Columbus provided magnets for the youth to sell and use the profits to purchase individual bibles for each Confirmation Candidate. Enough (about half) of the magnets were sold to purchase bibles for this year's candidates. Ray said to let him know if more money is needed to purchase the needed bibles.
- Homeless Shelter – The youth help with dinner prep at the Homeless shelter. It is uncomfortable, though it is a good experience for them.

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**Youth:** Nikki Gorski reported (see report attached):

- Jan 8 & 9 – The children spent a night in Bethlehem, and it was great.
- Quilt Raffle – Rich Pitruzzella won the quilt raffle that raised \$1,300.

**Liturgy:** Patrick reported

- There will be a meeting January 28 at 7p at the rectory to discuss Holy Week, Easter, and Alpha.
- Alpha – Holy Spirit parish is holding an Alpha session starting tonight, January 22, so they will be caught up with the other two parishes. The next Alpha session will be during Lent at St Francis de Sales (SFdS) from 6:30-9p on March 14, 21, 28, and April 4 and 11.
- Alpha Ministry Training – Fr. Jaime described the Liturgy training that will occur after the next Alpha session. Fr. Jaime will put a yearly training program together for Eucharistic Ministers, greeters, ushers, and lectors for all three parishes: SFdS, Prince of Peace, and Holy Spirit. Five (5) sessions will be in the evenings during the week, and 3 sessions will be Saturday mornings 8a-12 noon. There would also be concurrent training sessions for the Spanish Masses. Nikki relayed a question from a parishioner at the 11a Mass as to whether the ushers will be more formalized, as they are not always consistent and sometimes there are no ushers. Fr. Jaime and Patrick said the ushers would be more formalized.
- Revitalized CLOW Program – The clergy were recently at a meeting where comments from parishioners were reported. Deacon Jim also shared his experiences that parents are having a hard time getting their children and teens to attend Mass; they want to go to Mountain Christian Church, where it is more lively and more current activities are offered for young people. Fr. Jaime recognized that it is important to get the children interested in the Mass; they would then talk to their friends and parents to get them interested in attending Mass. Fr. Jaime came up with the idea to enliven the experience for the children attending CLOW at the 9a Mass. Instead of the children leaving Mass for the readings and their own discussion of the readings, parents would drop their children off at the Stone Chapel at the beginning of 9a Mass. The children could watch short videos and would practice doing the readings and taking part in various aspects of the Mass. They would then join their parents for the Eucharist in the main church. The steering committee would involve Angie Rebbert, Diane Lewis, Laura, who teaches preschool, Fr. Jaime, and Deacon Jim. This new program would continue for one year to give it the best possibility for success in engaging the children and the youth of the parish.

**Service:** Bill Countess reported for December and January activities (see report attached):

- Our Daily Bread - 80 casseroles delivered Dec 16 plus 54 casseroles delivered Jan 20
- Outreach: For November, 247 clients assisted, 263 food bags provided, 69 families financially assisted, and 76 turkey vouchers were distributed. For December, 199 clients assisted, 105 food bags provided, 43 families financially assisted. At the Christmas gift event on Dec 15, 48 families attended and gifts given to 105 children. Remaining gifts were donated to other churches.

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- Let's Do Lunch – 50 lunches distributed in December along with blankets donated by the Knights of Columbus Ladies
- Funeral Lunch Committee: Luncheons were held on Dec 11, Jan 18, and Jan 26.

**Stewardship:** Jim W reported (see report attached):

- The Development Committee has created a prioritized Working List of Capital/Maintenance needs for the Parish.
- Fund Raising Goal – A goal of \$50k has been established for the first year. 30% has been raised to date, and commitments have been secured on 40%. Plans are to go to the Parish at large next.
- Work on Items on the Working List – The heating unit in Kilduff Hall is now a high priority, since it failed in the last few days. It was able to be repaired, though this may only last a month. The heating unit will need to be replaced, as replacement parts are hard to find. This short-term repair gives us time to research and find the best replacement heating system.
- Discussions continue regarding gifts/bequests, wills, and donations of securities.
- Discussions on literature continue regarding brochures, bulletins, and a website.
- Deacon Jim thanked Jim W for his efforts and guidance in shaping this Development Committee.

**Parish Life:** Ray reported that the Knights of Columbus will sell seafood chowder during Lent, and they will co-sponsor a pancake breakfast on Sun, March 3 with the Boy Scouts.

**Connections:** No report

**Latino Community:** No report

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Jim W led the group in the prayer provided by Eleanor, and Fr. Jack gave everyone his blessing.

**Meeting Adjourned** by Jim Wilson at 8:44pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Martine Uveges, Secretary