

**St. Francis de Sales Pastoral Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**March 26, 2019**

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**Attendees:**

Jim Wilson	X	Herman Bush	X	Kathy Batdorf	X	Madison Buddenbohn	X
Liz Gonzalez	X	Nikki Gorski		Patrick Perkins		Sally Raphael	X
Isabel Sans	X	Cynthia Santiago	X	Patty Smith	X	Diane Traube	X
John Young	X	Dan Zankowitz	X	Deacon Jim Sullivan	X	Fr. Jack Ward	X
Fr. Jaime Garcia	X	Martine Uveges	X				

**The Meeting came to order at: 7:02pm**

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

**Approval of Minutes:** All approved the January meeting and early March Retreat minutes.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Elections Results:** Herman reported the results of the election were very close. John Young and Diane Traube were the top two vote getters, each of whom will serve a 2-year term; Sally Raphael was third, and will serve a 1-year term (with an option for 2 years). Patty motioned to certify the elections, and Kathy seconded; all approved.

**Pastoral Council Officer Elections:** Sally nominated Jim Wilson to be the chair again, and Jim accepted. Herman volunteered to be vice chair again, and Martine volunteered to be secretary again. Since most others are new to the council, this executive committee will provide continuity.

**Pastoral Council Retreat Synopsis:** Herman commented that Fr. Jaime led us all in an inspirational spiritual retreat, and he reminded everyone of the top three challenges identified at the retreat: 1) go back to our roots – focus on ‘we’, not ‘me’; 2) have the Liturgy be the best it can be; 3) maintain attendance at Mass by remembering the four-fold mission of the Church: God is love, God loves us, God wants us to live with Him in Eternal Life, and God wants us to be happy. Diane noted other challenges: the same people do things, and people in the pew do not feel like a part of the body of the church. Diane is working with Patrick and Fr. Jaime on Alpha Ministry with a focus on the spiritual.

**Three Critical Areas of Improvement:** Jim W asked if these top three challenges are still what the Pastoral Council should focus on for this coming year. He reminded us that people come on Sunday; they are here where we can tap on them. Dan said the people in the pews are represented in the pillars of the 5 Year Plan; others should be encouraged as they are ready to be involved. Jim W suggested that the Selected Members should gather a list of all the active people under their pillar, which would help us to know how many are involved. Deacon Jim said Outreach already has a list, and the scheduling software package that Angie Rebbert uses has lists of various groups, such as Lectors, Altar Servers, and Eucharistic Ministers. Fr. Jaime shared that he and Rebecca share information via Flocknotes, and others could also use this communication tool.

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*Council Leadership:* Jim W said leadership is branching out, sharing, leading, talking to those who are sitting by themselves, creating a warm place, being loving, caring, and merciful. He said all this starts in the Council, and he acknowledged that we are actively involved. All on the Council need to attend Alpha Ministry. Everyone should spend 2, 3, or 4 hours each week for the church and being a leader.

*Faith Fest:* Dan attended a planning meeting for Faith Fest, which will be on a Saturday this year, Sept 14 (instead of Sunday). He wants the Council to see a short video. Fr. Jack offered that the video could be shown on the TVs in the Narthex. Dan was impressed with the spiritual offerings at Faith Fest, such as confessions and family blessings. Dan is our St Francis de Sales Parish Volunteer and is looking for specific area leaders. Fr. Jack thought perhaps he would cancel Saturday evening Mass at St Francis de Sales and Prince of Peace to encourage attendance at Faith Fest.

*Parish Picnic:* Diane Lewis is leading the planning for the picnic. She and Fr. Jaime met once and will have another meeting shortly. Fr. Jaime said Prince of Peace and Holy Spirit will have a representative from their Councils on the planning committee. Liz noted that they have some volunteers from the parishes already. They have comments and suggestions from last year's picnic. Mass will be held at 12 noon at the picnic, and the last Sunday Mass will be canceled at the parishes.

*Ministry Reports:* Jim W asked that Selected Members provide quarterly reports for their Ministry Areas. Their reports should be provided to Martine before the Council meeting or shortly thereafter.

*Stations:* Fr. Jack passed around a catalog of new plaques for the stations of the cross. The cost for the 9"x6" set is \$4,900 or \$350 per station, and he thought some people may wish to purchase one station as a memorial for a deceased family member. Deacon Jim thought this size would be too small. He thought perhaps someone could make ceramic stations. Jim W said this might be an idea for a financially capable parishioner to pay for.

*Statue:* Sally asked how much was collected in the special collection for a statue of Fr. Oscar Romero for the Latino Community. Deacon Jim said ~\$1,850 was collected.

*Council Photos for Badges:* Jim W took photos of all new members to the Council, so they can be included on their Pastoral Council ID badge. Fr. Jaime took a group photo to be posted on the web site.

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Fr. Jack gave everyone his blessing. There was a question about who should provide the closing prayer. Diane suggested, and everyone agreed, that the opening prayer would be the Council Prayer, and the clergy would do the closing prayer.

**Meeting Adjourned** by Jim Wilson at 8:42pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Martine Uveges, Secretary