

**St. Francis de Sales Pastoral Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**April 6, 2021**

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**Attendees:**

X Jim Wilson	X Kathy Batdorf	X Maddie Frick	X Liz Gonzalez
X Nikki Gorski	Oscar Molina	X Gloria Morales	X Patrick Perkins
X Sally Raphel	Isabel Sans	Cynthia Santiago	X Gabriele Segletes
X Diane Traube	Dan Zankowitz	X Deacon Chuck Hoppe	X Deacon Carlos Morales
Deacon Jim Sullivan	x Fr. Jaime Garcia	X Martine Uveges	

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

**Opening Prayer:** Diane led everyone in the Pastoral Council Prayer

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes were corrected to mark Gloria in attendance. Sally motioned to approve the corrected March minutes; Deacon Carlos seconded; all approved.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Small Group Discussions:** Martine sent out with the meeting announcement the people who should meet in three small groups in April. Diane asked the groups to discuss items about the parish or anything going on and report back at the May meeting. Jim W, Gabriele, and Diane will set up a time for their small groups to meet.

**Pastoral Council Meetings – transition from Zoom:** Diane asked if the Council is ready to meet together physically. Deacon Chuck wondered where the group could meet. Sally noted we would need to rearrange and clean up after the meeting. Patrick shared that all the chairs in Kilduff Hall have been sprayed, and they could be moved farther apart for our meeting. Nikki said with the vaccine availability and planned rollout that things may shift all together in June, and maybe we could meet outside in August. Everyone agreed to wait and target meeting outside in August.

**Holy Week / Liturgy Report:** Patrick reported (see report attached):

- All Masses from Palm Sunday through Easter were live streamed. Diane noted that the microphone was adjusted, and Jim W expressed thanks for the good audio and visual quality of the live streamed Masses.
- Overflow in Kilduff Hall was available for all liturgical services from Palm Sunday through Easter Sunday, including 2-3 Overflow Ushers and an Overflow Eucharistic Minister.
- The 10:30a and 1p Sunday Masses have consistently overflowed since the beginning of Lent.
- Beginning Palm Sunday, one altar server and a sacristan was added for each liturgical service and will continue after Easter Sunday.
- All Eucharistic Minister positions were filled. In addition, in response to email requests, there were ushers and lectors at all Masses.

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- All attendance numbers increased at all Holy Week and Easter Sunday liturgies, compared to previous Lenten Mass attendance. Attendance Numbers for Holy Week 2021:
  - o Palm Sunday: 5:30p – 106, 8:00a – 97, 10:30a – 189, 1:00p - 202
  - o Holy Thursday: 7:00p - 130
  - o Good Friday: Noon – 80, 6:00p – 99, 7:30p - 120
  - o Easter Vigil: 7:00p - 146
  - o Easter: 8:00a – 199, 10:30a – 268, 1:00p - 190
- Special thanks were given to Liz Gonzales and Diane Lewis who have helped with the live streaming for all Masses throughout the pandemic.
- Grateful acknowledgement was given to Deacons Carlos, Chuck, and Jim who have not missed a Mass throughout the pandemic. Thanks were also extended to their families who support them.
- It is noteworthy that those in the Kilduff Hall overflow participate in the Mass as a faith community; they do not feel like just extra people in another site.

Diane thanked Patrick for all his hard work and a beautiful Triduum.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

***Brainstorming session - reopening:*** While it is acknowledged that we need to follow diocesan guidelines, Diane asked Fr. Jaime about thoughts on getting people back who have not been physically at the parish. Information from the various ministries is needed to formulate a reopening plan.

- Nikki noted that Diane Lewis is talking about having at least some component of VBS in person.
- Sally suggested there should be one master plan. It would make parishioners comfortable to know how we plan to open up.
- Patrick described that the Court of Appeals has phases laid out, and everyone knows what phase they are in.
- The summer will help; smaller groups can come back first, and then larger groups.
- Outdoor Masses will start in May. Diane noted that the youth liked the outdoor Mass; it is a way to bring back the youth ensemble.
- Jim W thought some groups may propose a mix of virtual and in person activities.
- Deacon Chuck noted that Zoom lifted time restrictions which may return, and that could affect the reopening.
- Diane suggested a campaign or marketing plan by quarter to communicate the phases of the reopening plan.
- Deacon Chuck said an inventory is needed of what we want to bring back and to pace it, since space is limiting.

***Gathering group status / path forward Template:*** Diane shared a template that could be sent to each Ministry area to fill in. They could list where they were in the past, where they are now, and where they want to be in the future. It could show which groups want to get back sooner or when they want to

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come back. While there is a 5 Year Plan, these reopening plans would be more focused for the coming year. Fr. Jaime did not want to just focus on the pandemic; he wants to learn of problems that may have existed prior to the pandemic. Diane will send out a draft of the Ministry Template for the Pastoral Council to review and get comments back within a week, by 4/10/21. She will draft cover letter wording to be sent with the template asking each ministry for their responses by 4/25/21 to Martine to collate for review at the May meeting. A small group can review the responses.

**Connections Appointment:** Fr. Jaime had previously talked with Denise Walsh about filling the open Connections position on the Pastoral Council, and she agreed. Diane motioned that Denise be selected to the Connections position, and Jim W seconded. All approved. Fr. Jaime prefers that one person, Denise, of Connections, rather than a subcommittee help review and develop the reopening plan. Jim W offered to help Diane with some history of the Connections position as Denise gets oriented.

**Harford County Health Department COVID-19 Vaccine:** Kathy announced that on Sunday, April 11, 11:30a-3p, volunteers will be available in the Education Center to help people age 65 and older to pre-register for the COVID vaccine. The Harford County Health Department is excited to help the Hispanic population to get registered on all online sites. Diane noted that as of now, vaccinations are open to anyone age 16 or older. Kathy said that since the Health Department is giving the Moderna vaccine, only those age 18 and older are eligible.

**Haiti Flamingo Fundraiser:** Kathy shared that the Haiti group with the Youth group are doing a flamingo fundraiser, where you can 'flamingo' family and friends to help raise money for Haiti. A video has been put together about this fun event.

**Meeting Adjourned** by Diane at 8:05pm

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Deacon Chuck said a close prayer, led everyone in saying the Hail Mary, and gave everyone his blessing.

Respectfully submitted,

Martine Uveges, Secretary