

**St. Francis de Sales Pastoral Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**June 22, 2021**

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**Attendees:**

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

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

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

**Approval of Minutes:** Gabriele motioned to approve the corrected May minutes; Kathy seconded; all approved.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**June/July Small Group Discussions:** Martine sent out with the meeting announcement the people who should meet in three small groups in June/July. Diane asked what topics would be good for the groups to discuss. Patrick would like feedback from parishioners on the reopening. Deacon Chuck would like to hear of any concerns regarding the lifting of dispensation of attending Mass in person. These topics will be sent to all as talking points in addition to whatever the groups would like to discuss and report back on at the August meeting. Representatives from each group (Group 1: Patrick, Liz, Denise, Sally, Martine; Group 2: Nikki, Isabel, Gabriele; Group 3: Jim W, Cynthia, Maddie, Diane, Gloria) should set up a time for their small groups to meet.

**COVID-19 Vaccinations at SFdS:** This was very successful with 75 people vaccinated. The Knights of Columbus Ladies did a great job coordinating, and Ellie helped with translation. Diane added that they are looking to do a children's clinic this summer.

**Campus Reopening – Update and Next Steps:** Fr. Jaime said the diocese will tell us what to do, and the reopening will be gradual.

- Liz has asked parish groups for their space usage requests. Activity requests will be reviewed so everyone gets an opportunity while some activities have preference over others. The review will also make sure activities are not competing with those of Prince of Peace.
- Bingo is starting up on July 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Jim W and Fr. Jaime are scheduling a time for the Financial group to meet.
- Patrick said recruiting for lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers, and ushers is happening. Fr. Jaime said information has been provided regarding what these roles entail. Patrick commented that a good thing from the pandemic was that some people took a leadership role,

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were welcoming and pleasant, and found they were good at it. There has been a good response for EMCs and lectors. One standby EMC will be scheduled for Masses.

- The response for ushers has been poor. This may be due to the 45 minutes Virtus training required of all volunteers. Jim W noted that some may have trouble using the online scheduling system. Diane proposed that training could be provided. If people do not use the scheduling system, they often do not show up. Diane suggested that if Patrick feels he wants to expand the outreach for new ushers, he should reach out to Denise directly.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Youth Ministry Update:** Guest Diane Lewis reported (see report attached):

- Meetings have been *virtual*, not in person
- *Preparing Special Needs People* - Malick, a non-verbal autistic 6<sup>th</sup> grader, was baptized on June 8<sup>th</sup>. Maddie was a great help along with her mother, who handles the physical aspects of the STRIVE program in Harford County. Maddie, a senior, is getting a couple others to learn how to do this, so this effort can continue when she graduates. Fr. Jaime thinks perhaps a program can be created to help prepare special needs people in Harford County and for other churches in the area.
- *NCYC 2021* – 8 youth and 4 adults are interested in attending.
- *Welcome One Homeless Shelter* – opens July 6<sup>th</sup>. Someone is needed to make dinners.
- *Haiti Flamingo Fundraiser* – There have been 126 requests. Two houses each night have been “flamingo’d” since May 4<sup>th</sup>. There has been \$2,500 collected for Haiti. This may occur again in the Fall. It has been well received.
- *Vacation Bible School* – July 5-9, 2021. The theme is “It’s a ‘Shore’ Thing – God’s Love for Us!” with bible stories that took place around the Sea of Galilee. It is sold out with 77 participants and 40 volunteers. Each child will have their own crayons, scissors, glue stick and pencil (thanks to the Knights of Columbus Ladies). Crafts and classroom activities will be pre-bagged. Permission slips will be needed per the diocese. The children can wear masks or not at the discretion of their parents. Music, games, and activities will rotate. Snack and classroom time will be lumped together at the end of the day.
- *Service* – Care Baskets were packaged for veterans at Perry Point. Gift boxes of toiletries were put together for Seafarers. In August there will be a mini work camp with day-long service spent at local parishes (St. Ignatius, St Mark, and SFdS). Service at SFdS will involve the outreach pantry. There will also be two social days at Guppy Gulch and Hershey Park.
- *Livestreaming Masses and parish events* – Liz and Diane L continue to alternate livestreaming, which will continue for the 10:30a and 1p Masses until further notice.
- *Mass trends* – for January to May 2021:
  - o 5p Mass – up 29%
  - o 8a Mass – doubled
  - o 10:30a mass – up 49%
  - o 1p Mass – up 22%

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- Jan to May – up 58% overall
- May – at 65% of our pre-COVID numbers (compared to Nov 2019)

Jim W and Diane T thanked Diane L and Maddie for all their work with the youth.

**Bridge Construction and Impact to SFdS:** Liz reported that the bridge construction will last for 2 years. The first two weeks saw cars exiting the parking lot very slowly after Masses on Sundays. Nikki suggested that people could exit by turning right at the top of the hill and going around the circle in front of the chapel. This is not allowed, since accidents could happen when entering Abingdon Rd. Surveyors were sent, and changes were agreed to. Fr. Jaime explained that 3 lanes will be painted at the top of the hill. One lane will allow entry and be directed to go down and around the back of the Religious Ed building to the parking lot. Two lanes will be directed to go up the hill from the parking lot and out onto Abingdon Rd at the new light. The light will be adjusted to give 30 (instead of 10) seconds of green for the 30 minutes at the end of all Masses (eg 9-9:30a). People will need to pay attention and move out quickly during the 30 seconds. The times of special Masses for holidays will be supplied, so the light can be reprogrammed for 30 seconds. They will try to see if this can also be done at the end of bingo. Diane suggested that this be announced, so parishioners know about these accommodations.

**July and August Council Meetings:** According to the schedule, there is no meeting in July, and a meeting on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Both Diane and Gabriele will not be at the Aug 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting. Martine will be at the meeting, though someone else will be needed to facilitate the meeting. The August meeting will be in person, and Fr. Jaime wants the group to be comfortable meeting in either Meeting Room 1 or in Kilduff Hall. Per Sally's preference, the Aug meeting will be in Kilduff Hall.

**Council Membership Resignation:** Diane announced that Kathy Batdorf resigned from the Council. Her selected position with a 2-year term can be filled by suggestions from the Pastoral Council. Kathy thought Gail Grady might be considered as her replacement; she is very involved with service. Since Gail is away for 1 ½ months, Diane will wait to ask Gail if she might be interested.

**Tri-Parish Picnic:** Deacon Chuck noted that there will not be a tri-parish picnic in Aug 2021. With pandemic restrictions just beginning to be lifted, it will not be possible to coordinate a picnic, and Holy Spirit will not be the third parish in the pastorate.

**Director of Music Ministry:** Fr. Jaime announced that Rob Henry resigned effective June 1. Instrumental coverage has been obtained for the 5:30p, 10:30a, and 1p Masses through Sept; it was determined that there would be no music at the 8a Mass at this time. A job description will be put together that includes organizing Liturgies and music and working with the Liturgy Committee. Adam at Prince of Peace (PoP) is also stepping down. Fr. Jaime proposes a Music Director for both parishes to cover 4:30p Mass at PoP, 5:30p at SFdS, 8a at SFdS, and 10:30a at PoP. Another person is needed for the 10:30a Mass at SFdS. Tami Zavislan will do the children's choir once a month, and the youth choir will also be once a month. The musician for the 10:30a Mass at SFdS could alternate at SFdS and PoP with perhaps Stevie White or Adam. Rob Henry will not be available to help on Sundays. Choir rehearsals will be one day a

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week alternating between SFdS and PoP. The Music Director position will be a part-time job at 19 hrs/week. This position will oversee the adult choir, children/youth choirs, and Hispanic choir.

**Fr. Jaime's Schedule:** Fr. Jaime shared his personal schedule:

- Mondays: all day at PoP for Mass at noon and Religious Ed
- Tuesdays: all day at SFdS
- Wednesdays: Fr. Jaime's day off. Fr. Roque or Fr. O'Brian can be available.
- Thursdays: Mass and mornings at PoP; lunch and afternoons at SFdS
- Fridays: all day at SFdS and 9a Mass
- Saturdays: 4:30p Mass at PoP and 5:30p Mass at SFdS
- Sundays: someone is needed for the 10:30a Mass at SFdS

Fr. Jaime does the clergy schedule. He thanked Deacon Chuck, who is doing a great job with the 1p Spanish Mass, Deacon Carlos, who has done many Masses, and Patrick, for keeping everything prepared for the Liturgies.

**First Friday's Eucharistic Adoration:** Fr. Jaime announced that Eucharistic Adoration will occur on First Friday's following the 9a Mass from 9:30a-10:30a and also at 7-8p. Deacon Carlos said people appreciate the closeness to the Lord. Patrick shared that there was a great response as a pastorate to the multi-day Corpus Christi Eucharistic Adoration. This will be planned again for next year.

**Prayers for Council Members:** Sally let everyone know she will be having serious surgery next Thursday, July 1<sup>st</sup>. Gabriele said she will not be at the August meeting, since she will be having cervical spine surgery in late July. Liz asked if she could put them on the prayer line, and they agreed.

**Meeting Adjourned** by Diane at 8:34pm

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Deacon Chuck said a closing prayer in thanks for a spirit-filled meeting and gave everyone his blessing.

Respectfully submitted,

Martine Uveges, Secretary