

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, September 13, 2023, 7:00 – 8:30 PM Conference Room

Present: Paul Capetillo, Laura De Boisblanc, Antonio Del Rosario, Fr. Hilbert, Kenn Kern, Marguerite Lucarelli, John Mancuso, Letty Moss-Salentijn, Sabrina Ng, Fr. Yesalonia.

1. **Prayer.** Father Yesalonia opened the meeting with a prayer.
2. **Review of Minutes, 14 June 2023.** The members received the minutes from the June 14 Parish Council meeting and the Pastor asked that any comments be sent to him. The minutes were accepted as presented.
3. **Report: Pastor.** The Pastor reported the following:
 - A. **Summer Updates.** While there were no major events held in July and August, there was still activity within the parish. The three icons purchased during May's Parish Art Show were installed in the Church, and the statue of St. Ignatius Loyola was installed in the Parish House Garden.
 - B. **Welcome Back Sunday.** The Welcome Back Sunday ministry fair was held in McKinnon Hall on September 10 after the 11:00 AM Mass. There was a large turnout and many groups had new sign-ups for their ministries.
 - C. **September 17 Mass.** The September 17 11:00 AM Mass will serve as both a Festival Mass and a celebration of Fr. Hilbert's 50 years as a Jesuit. There will be a reception in McKinnon Hall following the Mass.
 - D. **Parish Finances.**
 - a. Though the parish is operating in a deficit, the Finance Committee reports that finances are in good standing.
 - b. The Investment Committee reports benefits from the recent improvement in the market.
 - E. **Ministry Council.** The Ministry Council will meet on September 18. This will be an opportunity for ministry leaders

to share their activities and plans for future events, with the goal of driving collaboration between ministries.

F. **School Update.** St. Ignatius Loyola School enrollment is down from 600 to 527 students this year.

4. **Discussion: Future Roundtable Discussions.** The Parish Council discussed possible topics for future roundtable discussions that could also be tied into the theme of the upcoming lecture series. The following two topics were pinpointed for the next discussions:

A. **Loneliness.** Parish Council members thought the topic of loneliness would be highly relevant given the current epidemic of loneliness and social isolation in the US and UK. Kenn Kern and Antonio Del Rosario volunteered to co-lead the roundtable and aim to hold the event in November.

B. **The Migrant Crisis.** The influx of migrants in NYC and the fears it has stirred up is another relevant issue. Looking at the migrant crisis through the lens of faith, the roundtable discussion would guide participants in how to respond and help, as well as create an opportunity for listening and sharing experiences. Laura De Boisblanc volunteered to lead the roundtable and hopes to hold the event in the spring.

5. **Discussion: Implementation Plan.** The draft of the synthesized Vision Statement Action Plan has been shared with the Parish Council. During the October Parish Council meeting, members will carefully review the plan to select three of the most needed and feasible actions to prioritize.

6. **Other Business.** John Mancuso and Marguerite Lucarelli will lead a discussion during the October Parish Council meeting on the possibility of hosting a docent art program.

Father Yesalonia concluded the meeting with prayer.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

The next meeting is Wednesday, 18 October 2023, in the Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted.

Paul Capetillo.