

Parish Ministry Council Meeting

Monday, December 16, 2024 7:00 – 8:22 PM

Present: Fr. Yesalonia, Jackie Buffon, Laura De Boisblanc, Maria Fuentes, Maureen Fullam, Adele Gallo, Janet Lam, Liz Martucci, Kevin McKeever, Simone Vinocour McKeever, Anne Melanson, Karen Milton, Hector Montoya, Joan Schultz, and Jacques Torchon.

Opening Prayer

Fr. Yesalonia led the opening prayer.

Review of September 16, 2024 Parish Ministry Council Meeting Minutes

Fr. Yesalonia asked the council members to present any necessary changes to the draft minutes from the September 2024 Parish Ministry Council meeting. The minutes were approved and will be posted on the parish website.

Ministry Reports

Lay Ministers Enrichment – Jacques Torchon

- Planning for the 2025 winter LME program is underway.

Hospitality – Jacques Torchon

- The Christmas Eve and Day hospitality schedule is 20% filled. Fr. Hallinan is assisting with recruitment.

Compassionate Care & Emmaus Groups – Anne Melanson (Substitute for Kathy Murnion)

- 10 to 20 Compassionate Care members go to Vista Houses once a week to distribute Communion. They also give Communion at Lenox Hill Hospital and Mary Manning Walsh.
- Nov. 9th – Anointing of the Sick during the 5:30 PM Mass.
- Dec. 8th – Christmas caroling at Vista.
- March 25th – The spring session of the Emmaus Bereavement Group begins.

Children's Liturgy and Women's Faith Group – Adele Gallo

- The number of children attending the Children's Liturgy varies each week but has been as high as 20 on some Sundays.
- There are ten regular participants for the monthly Women's Faith Group meetings. Topics discussed reflect the Liturgical Season.

Ignatian Social Justice – Laura De Boisblanc

- Dec. 12th – Funeral Mass for Geronimo Valverde, the grandfather of one of the migrant families. He was buried in Calvary Cemetery.

- Dec. 21st – Christmas party for the migrant families. Gifts will be provided by St. Vincent de Paul Society.
- Jan. 11th – Immersion trip to the Southern Border.
- Feb. 8th - “Don’t Walk By” homeless outreach event organized by Rescue Alliance.
- Feb. 23rd – Jeff Korgen’s Dorothy Day book launch in Wallace Hall.
- Feb. 26th – Panel Discussion with Michael Connolly, President and Executive Director of the Harlem Family Institute.
- March 2025 – Lenten Week of Service.

Family Ministry - Emily Lowe

- Family Ministry is considering a reboot of the Moms, Pops, and Tots group.
- Dec. 22nd – Wallace Hall Christmas Pageant.
- Jan 26th – Festival Mass.
- Feb 8th – Pizza and Bingo Night.

Society Of St. Vincent de Paul – Liz Martucci

- Sept. 28th - Friends of the Poor Walk.
- Oct. 20th – SVdP Blood Drive. Over 100 pints of blood were donated.
- November - Parish Food Drive.
- December – Christmas Angel Project and SVdP Toy Drive.
- Mar. 9th – Next SVdP Blood Drive.

LGBT Catholics & Friends Ministry – Janet Lam and Hector Montoya

- Janet Lam introduced herself as the new co-chair.
- Oct. 18th – Parish Retreat sponsored by the LGBT Catholics and Friends Ministry.
- Oct. 28th – “Cabrini” Film Viewing.
- Jan. 25th - Visit to Mother Cabrini Shrine.

RCIA – Maureen Fullam

- The ministry has been renamed “Order of Christian Initiation of Adults”.
- Dec. 8th – 23 candidates participated in the first Welcome Rite.

Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors – Maria Fuentes

- Almost all positions have been filled for the Christmas Eve and Day Masses.
- Fr. Hallinan is in contact with several individuals interested in becoming Eucharistic Ministers. He is also in the process of training new lectors.

Music Ministry – Kevin Mc Keever

- The monthly 7:30 PM Saturday Jazz Masses have been successful.

- The music department is busy with preparations and rehearsals for the upcoming Christmas concerts, Masses, and other performances.
- May 4th - Sing & Celebrate. This free concert closes the 2024-2025 music season.

Meeting Christ in Prayer - Jackie Buffon and Cynthia-Marie O'Brien

- The fall MCIP program was cancelled due to low registration numbers. The six individuals who were interested have registered for the February session instead.
- At the participants' request, the winter Holy Listening program has been extended through the Christmas season.
- Rosario Conde has stepped back as co-chair but will continue to assist in facilitating the program.
- 2025 - The 25th Anniversary of MCIP at St. Ignatius. The ministry chairs are working with Fr. Hilbert to determine the best way to commemorate this milestone.

Interfaith Ministry – Simone Vinocour

- Nov. 21st – “Enter the Temple” program with V. Rev Archimandrite Chrysostomos Gilbert, Archdiocesan Cathedral Dean of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral. There were 60 attendees, approximately half of whom were from the Cathedral.
- Jan. 13th – Sat Sri Akal (Truth Reigns Eternal) program with Harmeet Kamboj, Senior State Policy Manager of the Sikh Coalition.
- Mar. 7th – Annual Iftar Dinner. Attendance will be capped at 250. This year's focus is “how to bring faith to your family”.
- TBD - Joint music program with ISJ.

Circle of Friends - Karen Milton and Joan Schultz

- The Circle of Friends Ministry started in September and has hosted four events thus far, one each month. Each event had an average of 40 participants.
- Jan. 8th – Ministry focus group. The chairs will hear feedback from past participants and learn what topics they would like to explore during future events.

Pastor's Report

The Pastor shared the following comments:

- Fr. Bergen, who celebrates his 93rd birthday today, is doing well at Murray-Weigel. His absence is felt by both the parishioners and priests. Fr. Yesalonia is considering how to best commemorate Fr. Bergen's decades of service at the parish.
- Fr. Yesalonia is considering a small capital campaign to fund necessary maintenance and repair projects at the parish.
- Kenn Kern will be sharing an update on the progress of the Vision Statement Implementation Plan initiatives in early 2025.

- Nov. 12-23rd – Jubilee Journey to Rome led by Fr. Hilbert. The deadline for registration is April 15.
- Feb. 21-28th – Trip to South Africa.
- Jan. 15th – “What Did the Synod Do? And Where Do We Go from Here?” lecture presented by Fr. Martin.
- Jan. 27th - “The Risk of Hope” lecture presented by Fr. Sawyer. This is the first presentation of the 2025 lecture series on hope.

Check Requests

If any Parish Ministry Council member requires honorarium payment for an event, Fr. Yesalonia asks that a check request be submitted to Rebecca Brucas two weeks prior.

Closing Prayer

Father offered the closing prayer at 8:22pm.