

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, 22 April 2026, 7:00 PM Conference Room

Present: Fr. Yesalonia, Fr. Hilbert, Barbara Bennett, Laura De Boisblanc, Antonio Del Rosario, Ken Kern, Letty Moss-Salentijn, Sabrina Ng, Christopher Passmore, Dolores Troy Quinn, Christian Sanders.

Absent: Marguerite Lucarelli, John Mancuso.

1. **Prayer.** Fr. Yesalonia opened the meeting with a prayer.
2. **Review of Minutes, 18 March 2026.** The minutes of the last meeting were approved as submitted.
3. **Report: Pastor.** Fr. Yesalonia gave an update of various events and works of the parish, including:
 - a. The visit of Father Rami Asakrieh, OFM, from Jerusalem was an important step in our developing sister relationship with the parish of St. Catherine's in Bethlehem. Father Rami was most appreciative of the welcome he received and will report back to the new pastor of St. Catherine's, Father Raphael, OFM. The visit was organized by Roxanne De La Torre.
 - b. The agenda of the recent Investment Committee meeting was shared with the Council.
 - c. We have large classes of students who will receive their First Holy Communion and Confirmation in the coming days. Bishop Massa from Brooklyn will confirm the SILS students and Bishop Whelan from New York the IREP students.
 - d. The Holy Week and Easter liturgies were beautiful and well attended. In-person attendance was as following:
 - Holy Thursday: 482
 - Good Friday: 491
 - Easter Vigil: 422
 - Easter Sunday 8AM: 491
 - Easter Sunday 10AM: 1,235
 - Easter Sunday Family Mass: 581
 - Easter Sunday Noon: 1,100

4. Implementation Plan—Update.

Ken Kern asked the council members to send him any updates on their respective projects/events as per the Implementation Plan. He requests these updates by June 1st.

5. Possible fundraising activity.

Barbara Bennett proposed organizing a Karaoke Night at the parish. Such an activity would serve as a community-building and “friend-raising” as well as a fundraising event. The cost of hiring the necessary hardware is foreseen to be \$600 for 4 hours. The system contains 500 songs. (A DJ would be extra.) The Council members were open and enthusiastic about the proposal, which needs to be elaborated with more details, e.g., will this be family-friendly or adults-only? Barbara will follow up at the next Council meeting.

6. Parish Council Planning Meeting.

The pastor invited input from the members with regards to an extended end-of-year planning session. A lively discussion ensued about possible topics to discuss, such as, “Are we serving the parish as we wish? Is the purpose of the planning meeting to plan the Council’s agenda for next year, or the parish agenda? What issues are arising from outside influences?”

- a. The Pastor invites the members to share their reflections/questions/insights to be discussed at the next meeting on 6 May. This sharing will be facilitated through an interactive document-sharing app that Christopher Passmore will send to the members.
- b. The Planning Meeting will take place on Wednesday, 10 June, from 4:00 to 8:30 PM. Venue TBD.

7. Other Business.

- a. Dolores Troy Quinn spoke of the organization “Catholics in Communion” and the multi-parish march on Sunday, 7 June (Feast of Corpus Christi), beginning at St. Ignatius and ending at St. Francis de Sales.
- b. Concern was expressed by various members for certain ongoing maintenance issues in the church and Wallace Hall.

Fr. Yesalonia led us in a Hail Mary and asked St. Ignatius to pray for us.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

The next meeting is Wednesday, 6 May 2026, in the Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted.
Michael Hilbert, S.J.