

## PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

**Wednesday, December 3, 2025, 7:00 PM Conference Room**

Present: Fr. Yesalonia, Fr. Hilbert, Barbara Bennett, Laura De Boisblanc, Ken Kern, John Mancuso, Letty Moss-Salentijn, Sabrina Ng, Christopher Passmore, Dolores Troy Quinn.

Absent: Antonio Del Rosario, Marguerite Lucarelli, Christian Sanders.  
Special Guest: Elizabeth O'Sullivan.

**Note: The order of the meeting's agenda was slightly altered: The Report of the Pastor (#3) preceded by the Communications Strategy (#4).**

1. **Prayer.** Fr. Yesalonia opened the meeting with a prayer.
2. **Review of Minutes, November 12, 2025.** The minutes of the last meeting were approved as submitted. Certain updates on events are included in these minutes.
3. **Communications Strategy.** Christopher Passmore addressed this topic, referring to the document he prepared and handed out at the previous Council meeting. The overarching purpose of our discussion is to assist in parish communications. How best to do that? What useful resources are available? The following are some of the suggestions:
  - a. Beyond the media channels that are already in place on the parish website (FORMED, YouTube, Facebook), we could create a video library on the website.
  - b. An advisory group of experts in communication could be formed to assist (Council members Passmore, Lucarelli, and Ng are all potential candidates). It was noted that too formal a structure of a committee could be counterproductive as it could slow down the process of "getting the word out" in a timely manner.
  - c. Many ministries of the parish have their own mailing lists which can create a silo effect in parish-wide communications. How to

harmonize a master mailing list with smaller ministry lists is a challenge.

- d. The use of press releases and a generous use of photos and graphics were suggested.
  - e. As far as possible, parish-wide events should take precedence over individual ministry events. For example, a routine ministry meeting might be rescheduled to accommodate the Laetare Lecture or the Snowball Dance.
  - f. The Council expressed gratitude to Chris Passmore and Elizabeth O’Sullivan for their work.
4. **Report: Pastor.** Fr. Yesalonia gave an update of various events and works of the parish, including, in no particular order:
- a. The exploration of purchasing property in the neighborhood for office, classroom, and meeting spaces. The Pastor is working with Bob Cisternino, Fernando Castro, Mary Larkin, and Finance Council member Ben Denihan.
  - b. The Thanksgiving Interfaith Prayer service was hosted this year by St. Ignatius Loyola. Perhaps due to meager advertising the turnout was disappointing.
  - c. Father Hallinan is producing now a parish-wide events calendars for the semester. This should help by giving all ministries a global view of activities.
  - d. The Father William J. Bergen, S.J. Office of Ignatian Spirituality & Faith Formation. The blessing and inauguration will be held on December 10, followed by a reception and the book launch and sale of the 3-volume set of Fr. Bergen’s homilies. The Pastor reported that pre-sales of the books are “bustling” and the Director of the new office, Roxanne De La Torre, is busy organizing the space and planning events. The Parish Council members are invited to attend the blessing at 4:00 PM.
  - e. The Snowball Dance will be held on Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, and promises to be the best yet!
  - f. The Advent Rite of Welcome for catechumens will be held on Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>.
  - g. The Christmas concerts are already sold out, as is the SILS Christmas Pageant.

**5. Implementation Plan—Update.**

- a. Ken Kern communicated that the semiannual report on the progress of the Implementation Plan will be ready for January. A request was made for contributions to a Holy Year Photo Album. If anyone has made the Pilgrimage of Hope, to Rome or elsewhere, please send photos to Elizabeth O’Sullivan or John Mancuso photos for an archive.
- 6. Living Out Our Faith Roundtable.** Sabrina Ng and Fr. Hilbert spoke of the plans for this roundtable, formerly called “Evangelization in Today’s World.” A revised draft proposal was presented to the members and a discussion followed about the best format for such a gathering. The theme of Mission and the figure of St. Francis Xavier were discussed. In this context, a discussion emerged about the Lenten Service Week activities. John Mancuso spoke of the LGBTC Ministry plan to volunteer at SAGE, a national organization serving LGBTQ+ elders and their caregivers. It would be good to have a Bulletin essay dedicated to the Lenten Service Week activities.
- 7. Spirituality and Internet Roundtable.** Ken Kern and Antonio Del Rosario presented their “work in progress,” proposing two similar formats: “Seeds & Weeds,” and “Promises & Risks.”
- 8. Other Business.** We discussed briefly but with great satisfaction the success of the Roundtable on Aging and Loneliness, the Circle of Friends Ministry, and the IGNITE initiative in social justice and teacher excellence. Finally, the Pastor distributed Christmas presents to the members with well wishes for the holidays!

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

**The Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.**

**The next meeting is Wednesday, January 14, 2026, in the Conference Room.**

Respectfully submitted.  
Michael Hilbert, S.J.