

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

October 11, 2018

7:30 pm

Parish Library C 103

	<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Presenter</u>
1.	Prayer	Kelly Boyle
2.	Formation	Monica Vickers
3.	Review of Minutes	Approved
4.	School Update	Melissa Jacoby
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New marketing and philanthropy• New yard signs made by the students• Alumni Christmas cards: a fund raising appeal to alumni, 90% who stated they were never asked to give and 84% said they will give. The money raised will be for scholarships, funding: 15 years for 15 years of graduates.• Spirit wear: it is not the same company that manufactures the school uniform• 3 older students made first communion• Living rosary 17 November• Mass with Moms 19 November• Community building: Trunk of Treat (Oct 25), Dance, other events• Volunteer: box tops wanted• Senior volunteers: new helpers (one on one help) needed. See Mrs. Manetti for information	
5.	PTPO Update	Kelly Boyle for Cathy Abi-Khattar
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$5000 from capital proceeds to church	
6.	Finance Status	Karen Asta
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Girmus to be attending Financial Meeting in regards to the school budget	

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- Minor revisions to bylaws
 - Now using auto funds transfers
 - Moving from 2/3 to vote to ½ to vote
- Energy Audit Process: One of projects to start
- Tithing allocation committee report to be circulated later

7. Commission Reports: (Major Highlights)

- **Community Service** George McAndrews
 - Nothing major to report
- **Religious Education** Walter Gawlak
 - Selecting family oriented visitors
 - Coming up with concept for badge for returning high school students who return to help the elementary school children
 - Navigating Challenge: Date to be circulated
 - Adult formation: dismissals during mass: PC please say hello
- **Community Growth** Betsy Zolper
 - Newcomers committee: luncheon October 21: please come. At least members pledge to attend.
 - Peace and Justice committee: weekend meals donations. Need more assistance in gathering food.
 - Praying College Moms (5 ministries plus one in Mexico): Pray by name
 - Pro-Life Committee: Oct 21: Speaker
 - Remembrance: Mass of Remembrance Nov 2. Invitations sent out.
- **Worship** Bob Lemieux
 - Preparation/Clean Up on Saturday: Nancy has arranged for assistance
 - Monday morning/Christmas Eve clean up: still needs help
 - Father Tuck to celebrate the mass for Our Lady of Guadalupe
 - Brainstorming Session on October 21. Right of spiritual

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reflection (diocese developed) will be discussed.

- Adoration mass
- Evening prayer (led by laity)
- Intentions

- **Youth**

Jim Barrett

- Nothing major to report

8. Old Business:

- St. Mark's Response to Church Abuse Scandal
 - Another meeting (Oct 21 Brainstorming Session)
 - Facilitation is underway.
 - Forward to Ellen (via Crystal) any information to help planning
- Fall Festival
 - Went well
 - High attendance
 - Popcorn, Beer, and Brats all sold well

9. New Business

- Elections
 - Four slots available.
 - Weekends in November 10/11 and 17/18 for voting and counting on the 18th
 - Write Ups for the information ballot are needed ASAP
 - Please recruit candidates!
- December Meeting Rescheduled from Dec. 13 to Dec 6th

10. Eyes and Ears

Council

- 8th Grade Confirmation Retreat Concerns
 - Should this be going to the RE Office?
 - Some parents (at least 10) do not want to send their children away with a group of people that do not know
 - Other parishes are doing a day event at their parish

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- Retreat has been done for 100 years
- Is official part of confirmation process
- Is there a groundswell of opinion or just a small, vocal group?
- Washing hands before EM. Pass on to Worship Committee
 - Follow up with Tim Grantz
- Volunteers: Great ideas that fall by the wayside (Easter Egg Hunt, Soup N Stations) when originator goes away. If no volunteers, can we have a staff person do it? (Staff person finding liaison, not running the show.)
 - Answer: if people still want to do it, they will take over the service. If it goes away, it goes away.
 - Fall festival: Is it possible to turn programs over to another ministry?
- December meeting: Bring back former members? Not really the purpose of the meeting.
- Cracked pew
 - Modesto on it
- Evangelization committee: Book Club (once a month for an hour)
 - Once a month, for an hour
 - Possible to do in electronically
 - Must be held in the CFC, as the Church has no Wi-Fi.
- Jean Costello gave the Holy Oil of Medjugorje, photos and story?

11. Pastoral Issues / Status / Updates

Father Pat

- Fall Festival is not a ministry group. Volunteer if you want, but not a requirement.
 - Train your replacement and seek your next position.
 - Staff will not fill in when people leave. Can publicize, but will not take the job.
 - The Pumpkin Patch: decline and fall into the Fall Festival
 - Helping Hands: Assistance to aged. Great ministry but faded away when one founder died and the other had to be diverted.

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- Praying College Moms: Founded, instigator moved on, strong leadership has kept it going.
- Past members: size of rectory. First meeting for active council.
- Open discussions for new pastoral council candidates

12. Closing Prayer

Meeting Ends at 8:51 pm

Next Meeting: November 8, 2018

Community Service Report

Always Our Children: No October update. No meetings in July and August. Meetings are every 2nd Monday evening of the odd months.

Bakers for Funerals: Bakers for funerals had 1 funeral this month. They have about 90 volunteer bakers. There are three co-chairs: Mary Lou McIntire, Karen Jiron and Susie Callahan

Care for Our Common Home Ministry (CCH) – 1) Details on recycling obtained from Waste Management. All plastics made for consumer materials are accepted. No foam. All juice boxes, milk cartons. Paper and combination material cartons. They need to be empty but not dry. All paper. All cardboard - flattened. Recyclables cannot be in plastic bag 2) **Care for Creation Network Catholic Diocese of Arlington (CCNCDA)** quarterly meeting 11 am October 30th at the Chancery. 3) Season of Creation Ecumenical Prayer service provides an annual opportunity to praise and thank God for his gift of Creation. Service attracted fellow Catholics from St. Ambrose, St. Luke's, OLGC, SJN and Thomas a Beckett. Considering moving to Sunday evening to increase attendance. 3) Table at Fall Festival emphasizing the main reason to protect creation is to protect life, included prayers for creation, recycling tips, and ways to advocate through existing Catholic and faith groups.

Christians in Commerce: No October update. The NoVA Men's Chapter of CIC continues to meet every Wednesday in the Choir Room at 0645 (Fellowship & Vittles) followed Prayer, Praise Teaching & Sharing from 7-8 am.

Cursillo: No October update. Meets every Tuesday 12:30-1:30 in Jean Lupinacci's office for those who have already made a weekend. <http://www.arlingtoncursillo.org>

Evangelization Committee: No October update. A recommendation on how to proceed with this new Committee has been proposed and sent to Fr. Pat for his approval. Deacon John will be getting with Fr. Pat on this soon.

Funeral Receptions: There have been 2 since the last meeting with new members helping. Always open to new members. Families of the bereaved continue to express their thanks for this ministry.

Knights of Columbus (Santa Maria Council): Baby Bottle Boomerang : To be held at OLGC the knights in conjunction with OLGC will distribute Baby Bottles to be filled with change and returned in November. The money will go to support Life at Tepyac, A Womans Choice and the OLGC Pro Life committee. Coats for Kids : the Knights will collect money in front of ABC stores in Vienna and Oakton and donate the proceeds to Coat's for Kids to assist needy children tolerate the cold weather. St Marks Festival: The Knights assisted at this years

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St. Marks Fall Festival. Santa Maria 60th Anniversary: 10/13/18 We will celebrate our 60th anniversary of service in the Vienna Area. Giving Thanks 5K Run Held Thanksgiving morning the run honors veterans who have given their lives for our country. The race is organized by a retired Navy Veteran and our council assists. Christ House: We assisted feeding the poor at Catholic Charities in Alexandria 9/26

Le Cercle Francais: No October update. Continues to meet every Tuesday from 10 am -12 and converse en Francais.

Movie Night: For the September 14th St Mark Family Night Movie we showed **Paddington II**. We had a bit over 120 in attendance: moms, dads, grandparents and children. Everyone enjoyed the movie, the socializing, and the ice cream sundaes and popcorn. Our next Family Night Movie will be **Coco** on October 19th. Again we will have ice cream sundaes, popcorn and candy since it is close to Halloween. Please extend an invitation to the counsel to come to the next presentation.

Newcomers Committee: As mentioned for the September report, the Newcomers Committee is getting ready for our Fall Newcomers Luncheon, which will be held on **Sunday, October 21st at 1:00pm**. We would welcome attendance by any Pastoral Council members who are available to attend to greet and enjoy lunch with the new members of our Parish. **If you could extend the invitation to the Pastoral Council at the October meeting, it would be much appreciated!**

Pastoral Care Team (PACT): No October update.

Peace and Justice Committee (PJC): PJC is sponsoring Weekend Meals for School Children. Food for Others coordinates the preparation and distribution of weekend meals for FCPS school children, working with the schools. **We need more help with this. Food donations have been slow and the parish is collecting for St. Lucy project at the same time.** Mark your calendars now! St. Mark is partnering with a mosque, MakeSpace, and a synagogue, Olam Tikvah, to prepare Weekend Meals for School Children in Fairfax County. We will do this Day to Serve project on Sunday, October 28, from 2 – 4 p.m., at Congregation Olam Tikvah, 3800 Glenbrook Rd. in Fairfax.

We are hosting a program on Unaccompanied Youth on Wednesday, Nov. 14th, at 7 pm in the Cassidy Activities Center. Kathi Sheffel, the FCPS Homeless Liaison, will explain the FCPS Homeless Education Program, and Meghan Huebner from Second Story (formerly Alternative House) will explain the community provider side of services for unaccompanied homeless youth. Please plan to attend!

Prayer Shawl Ministry: The shawl ministry is preparing for winter needs, hats and scarves for the homeless while continuing their prayer shawls

Praying College Moms: Praying College Moms, originating here at St. Mark's, began its sixth year this September with ministries in five states and one group in Mexico. PCM is founded on the belief that mothers possess a unique opportunity to lift our children to the Lord in prayer and entrust them to His care. Our author, Maribeth Harper, recently published the third and final book in the And So We Pray series. The book, [...And So We Pray - Guidance for Moms with College-Aged Young Adults](#), is available on Amazon. In October we hold our signature event, Care Packages with a Catholic Twist, with hundreds of packages mailed at the end of the month. The packages are hand-packed and prayers are offered for the students who will receive them. Information to order these special packages is located on our website: prayingcollegemoms.org. In late October, we have our Quarterly Executive Board meeting. In November, we will host a Vintage Afternoon Tea at Cafe Renaissance in Vienna. The PCM monthly meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month, at 10:00 am, and 7:30 pm: and will continue until July. The meetings involve the sharing of a chapter from Catholic author, Maribeth Harper's book, prayer for our young

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adults, support, and fellowship. This month we sponsored the PCM ROSARY. Moms come together to pray the Holy Rosary, and pray for the protection, moral strength, good health, success in academic and career endeavors, social integration, and continued strengthening of their Faith.... by name for close to 600 young adults.

Pro-Life Committee: No October update.

Remembrance Ministry: The Remembrance Ministry is quite busy planning the annual Mass of Remembrance set for Friday, **November 2 at 7:30 p.m.** All readings and music have been planned and all positions have been filled from readers to altar servers. The committee is just finishing sending out invitations to especially invite those who lost loved ones this year (those that were reported to St. Mark). Everyone in the community is invited to this special Mass, which is a wonderful way to remember all our deceased loved ones and to share comfort and faith with one another. After the Mass, the committee will meet to discuss how it went and to note any changes that will be suggested for next year's mass.

Senior Ministry (M&Ms): Deacon Allen gave a great presentation on St. Luke at our October Coffee. Kathy Kelmelis gave an informative presentation on how to organize your thoughts to write your memoirs. The pot luck was well attended and Trish Spencer administered flu shots then. In October we are having Matrona Busch, a senior family advisor give a presentation which is of no cost to the participants since local senior housing communities pick up her tab. Our October trip is to St. Ignatius Church in Chapel Point, MD. It is the oldest continuous use church in North America. We will attend Mass, get a tour from Fr. Collins, and hear about the church history. Our own Pat Collins' family is from that part of MD and has donated a stained glass window to the church. We will have lunch at Gulligan's seafood house. On our return back to VA, we will stop at the Historic Village of Port Tobacco and learn of its early history as a seaport. John Wilkes Booth also passed through the village during his escape from DC and Lincoln's assassination.

Small Communities of Faith: No October update.

Welcome and Information Desk: No October update.

Religious Education Report

Community Growth Report

Worship Report

Worship Commission Report – October 2018

Advent and Christmas Planning: Saturday, 8 December – Feast of the Immaculate Conception – is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses will be at 8 and 11 am. Wednesday, 12 December, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Fr Tuck will preside at the 6:00 PM Mass. The Worship Commission is planning the support for both of these Masses as well as other Advent/Christmas liturgies.

The Commission is still working through the challenges for this season, specifically after the Sunday, 23 December, 11:45 Mass and the first Christmas Eve Mass at 5:00 PM (Christmas Eve

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Masses are 3x 5:00 PM, one 8:00 PM and one 10:00 PM). With the Penance Service on Sunday, December 23, 2018, 7pm, ushers will prepare the church for the Penance Service after the 11:45am Mass, as usual. The Liturgical Art Committee will also decorate for Christmas on Sunday, December 23rd after the 11:45am Mass; volunteers are needed given the short amount of time to prepare and Christmas Eve Masses. Additionally, a team of volunteers is needed at 9am December 24 (Christmas Eve morning) to help clean up from the Penance Service, and transport items to the Gym and AC for Masses.

Nancy continues to coordinate with Modesto and maintenance staff to ensure that cleanup and re-setting of chairs in CFC gym and AC (for the Monday, 24 Dec 5 PM Masses) can take place over the Dec. 22-23 weekend.

Abuse Scandal Healing Liturgies: The Worship Commission will propose these Liturgical events for potential discussion at the 21 October brainstorming session:

1. Mass (date TBD, may be a Monday or Thursday night)
2. Adoration
3. Evening Prayer - to be led by laity
4. Incorporate intentions from the Spiritual Reflection into weekly Mass intentions

These options used the Diocese-developed Rite for Spiritual Reflection as a guide. They will only be developed if the community wants them and are willing to be in a group to plan and support them.

Youth Report

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