

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Notes, October 29, 2025

- PPC Members in attendance: Mimi Madrid, Gail Graham, Jean Mense, Martha Zamorano, Fr. Jaime Rivera, Stephen Sheahan, Ed Gallagher and Fr. Juan Areiza.
- Father Juan opened the meeting with a prayer.
- **Parish Fall Festival (Mimi)**
 - We had great weather and the festival was very successful. Kathy Kuczka did a great job again this year. She asks that we find a replacement for her before next year.
 - Our biggest issue includes the set up and tear down of the event. We needed more volunteers for these activities.
 - There was a suggestion to relocate the ministry tables to be in the handicap parking lot and move the food tents down on the driveway. The idea being this would force people to walk through the ministry tables to get to the food.
 - Dates for next year have been reserved on the calendar.
- **New Parishoners Brunch (Mimi)**
 - Mimi reported 6 new families and 12 people attended the brunch on 10/26.
 - Mimi's biggest concern is that the people attending are not the same people who submitted an RSVP. Mimi and Martha will look into this further.
 - The council agreed to stay with having the brunches twice a year in April and October.
- **Ministry Sharing Sessions (Gail and Jean)**
 - Gail distributed the survey results from the September 27 Ministry Sharing Session. There were ~50 attendees and we only had 5 responses to the survey.
 - We have the parish hall reserved for January 24 in case we want to host another event for the ministry leaders. Jean will talk to Jeff about next steps
- **Pastoral Council Strategic Initiatives**
 1. Expanding Council participation to better reflect the diversity of our parish demographic and provide leadership opportunities to more of our people - Gail
 - *Gail distributed the council bylaws with the changes needed to be approved to expand the council. The council voted to approve the amended bylaws. Gail will forward to everyone via email.
 2. Augmenting succession planning initiatives by encouraging a co-leadership model for the Ministries to ensure ministerial sustainability - Jean and Jeff
 - *No updates to report
 3. Encouraging and increasing communication between parishioners and Council members - Mimi, Alex, Martha & Orlando
 - *No updates to report
 4. Initiating outreach to Pastoral Councils at other parishes to model cross-parish synodality and explore opportunities for collaboration - Stephen, Alex and Fr. Juan
 - *No updates to report

5. Partner with Faith Formation team to augment the program with additional offerings for adults in the near term and contribute to a plan for their sustainability - Stephen, Fr. Juan &

*Stephen, Father Juan and Ed reported on Abby's plan to host a St. Thomas Aquinas Gala to raise money for Faith Formation but also to give awards and recognition.

Abby has a plan drafted for the Gala. Stephen will forward an email regarding these plans. The Gala would be hosted on the feast day of St Thomas Aquinas in January which does not leave a lot of time.

*There was some discussion on technology needs for Faith Formation. Ed would be willing to help out. Father Juan spoke to Rosario about using Giving Tuesday to raise funds.

- **Pastor's Update (Fr. Juan)**

- The fiscal year report was given at masses on the weekend of October 18/19. It was well received.
- Our collections for the fiscal year that started in July 2025 are about \$55,000 under budget right now.
- The roof needs replacement and the parish is in the process of getting quotes and insurance inspections.
- Columbarium - 600 plus families have expressed interest. A place on the church property will be identified. Endowment funds will be needed for maintenance and potential relocation. A loan from the Archdiocese would be required to get started once the requisite number of spaces have committed buyers.

- **Parish Soft Update (Martha)**

- Martha distributed a handout regarding the number of registered parishioners.
 - As of 10/1/25, we have 2852 Registered & Active families - 60% Anglo and 40% Hispanic. This equates to 9733 Registered & Active members - 54% Anglo and 46% Hispanic.
 - We have 937 families that currently receive Envelopes for Sunday donations - majority Anglo.
 - 854 families receive the Georgia bulletin.
 - Several projects are underway to clean up duplicates, synchronize between Parish Soft and Envelope databases, update Sacramental records not in Parish Soft and develop a strategy to update and maintain Parish Soft.
 - Martha to update the council next month.

- **Ministry Updates (Jeff)**

- With several new ministries and updates to ministry leaders & parish council members, we need to review the ministries assignments.
- Jeff will update the council next month.

- **Our next meeting, which will be the annual joint meeting with the Finance Council, is scheduled for 12/3/25 at 6:00 pm. A concluding prayer was led by Father Jaime.**

Submitted by Jean Mense