

Minutes of 1/21/26 Parish Council Meeting

- PPC Members in attendance: Mimi Madrid, Gail Graham, Martha Zamorano, Fr. Jaime Rivera, Alex Minel, Jeff Cardell, Ed Gallagher and Fr. Juan Areiza. On Zoom, Jean Mense, Stephen Sheahan, Orlando Cruz, Father Dan

- **Opened with prayer by Fr. Juan**

- o Announced that today, 1/21, is Fr. Juan's 45th birthday. Cake by Mimi.

- **Scheduled 2026 Calendar of Events**

- o Martha went through the calendar of events for 2026.

Event	Typically Held in	2026 Scheduled Date
Aquinas Gala		Cancelled
Married Couples Mass	February	14-Feb
Parish Mission	Lent	2-Mar
Mission Cuaresmal	Lent	9-Mar
Community Wedding	March	7-Mar
Ministry Leaders Workshops	Qtrly or 2x/year	11-Apr
Newcomers Brunch	2x/year	26-Apr
Volunteer Appreciation Mass and Dinner	May/June	29-May
Fall Festival	October	3-Oct
Newcomers Brunch	2x/year	25-Oct

- **Action - Stephen:** Check city event dates for potential conflicts with parish activities and follow up with the group once information is received.

- **PC Email questions**

- o Mimi reviewed two PC Emails:

- 1) There was a question amount how to participate in STA ministries on-line.
 - Fr. Juan stated that there are no on-line ministries at STA
- 2) The on-line portal for parishioners to donate to the church does not have the dates for second collection items. It lists the items, but corresponding dates are not shown.

- Martha commented that the system had changed and no provision for showing dates was provided. Also, she noted that dates can change.
 - **Action - Martha:** Check with Rodney and Sarah about how dates can be added
 - **Action – Stephen:** Work with Martha to get list of second collection items and dates. Then email a response to the parishioner, Brenda, sharing these dates and the plan to investigate updating the on-line system.

- **Pastoral Council Strategic Initiatives:**
 - Mimi stated that there are 5 strategic initiatives. With the 5th being Supporting STA Ministries that includes the STA Ministry Communication Log.

 - a. **Increasing Council Participation & Bylaws**
 - Gail reported no action but a need to work on recruiting new members. There was an open discussion that included two points:
 - Using an open invitation in the parish bulletin to get new members
 - Create a list of missing demographic groups to ensure diversity in the council and identify requirements
 - **Action – Mimi:** Forward list of questions used in the past for interviewing and selecting new parish council members.
 - b. **Encouraging & Increasing Communication**
 - Minimum discussion
 - c. **Partnering with Faith Formation**
 - Stephen reported no meetings. Planning to meet with Abigail about technology requirements needed. Gala planned for early 2027
 - d. **Initiating outreach to PC's @other parishes**
 - Stephen reported no meetings. Plans to focus on what we can learn from other parishes and will ask Fr. Juan for recommended parishes.
 - e. **Supporting STA Ministries**
 - Skipped report.

- **Pastors Update:**

- a) Concerned about weather reports for this weekend. Mass will be held but encourage parishioners to review weather conditions and stay home if needed for safety,
 - b) Columbarium
 - Committee meeting last week
 - Will be going forward
 - Engaged architectural firm for design. Same firm as developed plan for church
 - Area selected behind choir
 - Financial plan in work
 - Phase 1 – 320 locations
 - Future Phases will allow 1000 locations
 - c) Faith Formation
 - Change age of Confirmation from Grade 12 to Grade 6
 - There will be a 3 year transition plan
 - Fr. Juan stated that there was a lot of discussion by several groups on this topic before decision was made.
 - d) Religious Education
 - Archdiocese wants to move to a more family-oriented program.
 - Current STA program is already aligned.
 - e) Archdiocese Capital Campaign
 - There will be an Archdiocesan campaign.
 - Ask that there be no new parish-based capital campaigns for 5 years.
 - Portion of Archdiocese Capital Campaign to come back to parishes.
 - This campaign will be in addition to all existing programs.
 - f) Parish Finances
 - Going well this year
 - Response in December was great
 - g) Archdiocese Annual Appeal
 - STA was above plan and money to be returned to parish
 - h) Roof
 - Had inspection and expect roof to last for 3-5 more years
 - Decision made to not re-roof this year
- Martha shared that there is an increase in parish members not registering, especially within the Spanish community
 - **Mimi stated that the next meeting will be Feb. 25 and future meetings to be last Wednesday of month for 2026.**

- **End with Prayer led by Fr. Juan.**