

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CHURCH

PARISH PASTORAL AND FINANCE COUNCILS

December 6, 2023

MEETING REPORT

I. Roll Call

In Attendance in person or via Zoom: Monsignor Gentili, Dick Clark, Michele Savage, Don Kraft, Matt Gavinelli, Barbara Kieffer, Juan Navia, Will Conway, Bob Weikel, Ed Zupanac, Tony Martin, Bob Silberg, Phil Junker, Ray Lokay, Ellen Roehm, Leo Craig, Pete Hawley, Dan Kearns, Tim Conniff, Kim Hirsch, Teresa Fischer, Joel Zazyczny, David Serrano

Excused: Deacon Brady, Ed Zapisek, Laura Campbell, Ray Kalouche, Carol Kalouche, Paul Crovo, Lisa Kopertowski, Dominique Galloway, Lisa Martinez, Karen Brody

II. Opening Prayer

Monsignor shared this coming Sunday's gospel (Mark 1, 1-8).

As it is written of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God:

Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way.

A voice of one crying out in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths."

Our parish leaders need to be aware, alert and encouraged to live the Corporal Works of Mercy. Monsignor asked everyone to gather their intentions and to remember Tom Rakszawski and his family along with Greg Bredin and Tom Moran. Everyone prayed an Our Father.

III. Approval of June 7, 2023 Meeting Report

Council members approved the report and Teresa will post on the website.

IV. Evangelization Initiative – Deacon Brady and Don Kraft

There is a three percent increase in the number of registered parishioners but we have noted a ten percent increase in the number of attendees at Mass. There are 26 participants in OCIA this year which is more than last year. A parish ministry leader workshop was held which encouraged ministry leaders to be more intentional in their ministry to invite members into the faith and/or to strengthen their faith. A six-month follow-up Zoom meeting is planned.

Council members discussed. Suggestions included: highlighting various ministries in the bulletin, challenging parishioners to join just one ministry and utilizing pulpit/cantor announcements to encourage ministry sign up.

Matt discussed Mass attendance. *Chart attached to minutes.*

Monsignor commented that our numbers continue to grow and believes that the parish

evangelization efforts are working. The parish is six percent over last year in the weekly collection. Anthony added that expenses are also up six percent but at least we are covering those increased expenses. Members discussed continuing to include information about end-of-year donations (tax benefit) to the parish.

V. Ministry Budgets – Bob Weikel

Requested funds were distributed to the various ministries. Two ministries were over budget and the parish staff is working with these ministries to assist with budgeting and spending.

VI. Major Project Update – Bob Weikel

There are 49 projects on this list. Monsignor reviewed this list and cut it to 14 projects that need to be addressed in a timely fashion. Bob is currently overseeing major projects which includes getting current estimates and prioritizing these projects.

VII. Finance Council Update

The parish has \$2.5 million in balloon payments. OLG has the funds to pay the final balance on the Archdiocese of Philadelphia (AOP) loan of \$500K. We continue to prioritize the payment of the long-term mortgage (\$6 million). The planned giving initiative will be rolled out at OLG in the coming year. Paul and Dick are working with the Catholic Foundation of Greater Philadelphia for planned giving.

Update: OLG had two balloon payments due over the past year. The Penn Community Bank loan of \$1.5 million was paid in December 2023. The parish satisfied the AOP loan of \$500K on February 29, 2024. Thanks to the generosity of our parishioners, through the Legacy Campaign, we were able to complete these payments in a timely manner. The parish still has \$400K in reserve for the mortgage that can only be used to pay down the parish debt. Pledges for the Legacy Campaign are still being fulfilled and the campaign is still open for new pledges.

The new loan balance on the parish long-term mortgage is \$5,959,824.

VIII. New Business/Questions

Teresa provided a livestream and social media update. The parish continues to have more followers on Facebook and Instagram. Parish news and photos are posted several times each week in addition to the all of the livestream Masses. So far in 2023, the most popular livestreams were the Easter and Palm Sunday Masses (Christmas 2023 was not included). Facebook reach, visits and Instagram visits are all up for the year. The number of minutes the parish videos have been viewed is down from the prior year. This is somewhat to be expected as in-person Mass attendance continues to increase.

Monsignor invited all parishioners to participate in the December 12 feast day Mass and celebration. David and Juan asked that some English be incorporated into the Feast Day Mass.

Every parish will have representatives at the Eucharistic Congress in July 2024 in Indiana.

Matt and Cecelia Gavinelli will represent OLG.

Monsignor thanked Lisa Kopertowski, David Serrano and Karen Brody for the great work they are doing with their ministries. Individually and working together they are serving our parish families, children, youth and young adults.

IX. Next Joint Meeting PFC and PPC

June 12, 2024

December 4, 2024

X. Closing Prayer

Monsignor asked attendees to pray for those who are sick and suffering. Everyone prayed an Our Father.