

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CHURCH
PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
Minutes, March 3, 2020

I. ROLL CALL

Monsignor Gentili, Mike Broglie, Matt Gavinelli, Dominique Galloway, Lisa Martinez, Carol Kalouche, Father Ianelli, Chip Puchino, Juan Navia, Ray Lokay

Excused: Paul Crovo, Lisa Kopertowski, Dan Drain, Paola Cubides Herrera, Leo Craig, Deacon Brady, Emily Clementi

Recording Secretary: Teresa Fischer

II. OPENING PRAYER

Today is also the Feast Day of St. Katherine Drexel from Philadelphia. Monsignor read today's gospel from Matthew. In this Gospel, Matthew gives us the Our Father prayer. Our Father is always going to be here for you and will give you what you need but not always what you want. The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) members prayed the Hail Mary.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

(November 13, 2019 and March 3, 2020)

The previous minutes from the November 13, 2019 were not available at the time of the meeting. At the next PPC meeting on April 15, 2020, the PPC will approve the November 13, 2019 and the March 3, 2020 minutes. After they are approved, Teresa will post on the website.

IV. HISPANIC OUTREACH

Juan provided the update as Paola was not present at the meeting. There will be a Spanish track for the OLG Day of Reflection on April 4, Stations of the Cross in Spanish will be held on April 7 and ministry leaders will complete the Catholic Christian Outreach (CCO) first module starting on March 4. Juan explained that attending this CCO module will help the ministry leaders build up a personal relationship with Christ which will help them minister to the community.

A First Communion workshop is planned for parents and children. The OLG Dinner/Fundraiser is planned for May 2 at the Parish Life Center (PLC). The Hispanic Ministry will be participating in the parish carnival on Pentecost. There will be another roundtable discussion with area agencies and programs serving immigrants in Bucks County on April 15. Finally, Father Ianelli will lead a marriage workshop on May 23.

The OLG Hispanic Ministry continues to be involved in the New Sanctuary Movement in which Bishop Deliman is very involved. Six new Hispanic families

have registered with the parish from January 1 to March 1, 2020. In addition, there have been multiple baptisms, three Quinceañera, and two weddings.

In January, representatives from OLG and the Archdiocesan Educational Fund discussed the grant OLG received to support our Hispanic Ministry. OLG was unable to meet the expectations of the Archdiocesan Educational Fund and decided to return the grant money. Since then, OLG has received the financial support of the Catholic Foundation of Greater Philadelphia (CFGP) as well as the backing of Bishop Deliman and fully expects the support of Archbishop Perez.

V. RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Monsignor provided an update for OLG Religious Education. The new program is going very well. Approximately 60 7th grade students meet every other Monday as our first 7th grade class since the parish has changed the date of the Sacrament of Confirmation until 8th grade. The parish believes the new program and materials is a more solid approach to religious education. Students and families seem to have adjusted well to the new curriculum, it has been a tougher adjustment for some teachers.

VI. SECURITY RECOMMENDATIONS

Buckingham Police completed a security review of parish campus and they had a few additional recommendations that are being addressed. The parish has applied for a \$37,500 grant for funding for security equipment. The parish should find out if they have received the grant by mid-March. In addition, the parish is working on the lightening for the lower parking lot and replacing spotlights in the sanctuary.

Ray expressed concern over publishing the amount of money the parish receives in the weekly collection in the parish bulletin. He suggested including a percentage to goal statement rather than the dollar amount. Council members discussed how the collection money moves from the sanctuary to the bank. The parish follows Archdiocese of Philadelphia (AOP) guidelines. Monsignor will discuss with Tom Rakszawski to make sure the parish is also following state and local guidelines.

VII. EVANGELIZATION OUTREACH – MONSIGNOR

Monsignor provided an Evangelization Committee update. We are looking forward to the Parish Mission which will be held this weekend. The parish has been utilizing social media and has been getting a very positive response. Upcoming evangelization events include: Parish Mission, Day of Reflection, Lenten Preaching Series, Formed.org, parish mailings and Holy Week initiatives.

Monsignor recently sent a letter to all registered parishioners that have not contributed to the weekly collection or other donation in the past year. This was a follow-up to the letter that is sent to all contributors for tax purposes. In the letter, Monsignor asked if there was anything he could do for them to help them become more involved in the parish. There have been a number of responses and many were

positive. Monsignor personally responds to all responses and invites all non-active parishioners to come back.

VIII. CELEBRATING GROWTH” MINISTRY WEEKEND UPDATE

The Celebrating Growth/Ministry was held on February 22/23. A discussion ensued regarding moving to just two weekends (currently hold three) and making the welcoming of new families a separate event. This committee will meet privately to discuss and provide a recommendation.

IX. SOCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE UPDATE – CHIP PUCHINO

The parish golf outing is scheduled for September 28, 2020. Other upcoming events include a Bingo/Nonsense Show in November, Cookies with Santa in December, Paint and Wine Night in May and another Babysitting Night in the spring.

Bob and Louise Silberg are now leading the Social Affairs Committee. Monsignor thanked Chip for his great leadership on this important committee.

X. CORONAVIRUS

As COVID-19 becomes more prevalent the parish is following the guidelines of the state and local government as well as the AOP. At this time, the parish is suspending the sign of peace and encouraging just a verbal greeting before Mass. The council discussed the safe distribution of communion.

XI. PASTORAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Monsignor is very pleased with the current PPC and would like all current members whose term is about to expire to consider remaining on the council for another year or two. Elections will be held in the coming year.

XII. LITURGY COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Liturgy Committee is preparing for Lent and Holy Week. There will be Adoration every Friday in Lent and the parish continues to look into extended Adoration. Safety and security are major issues when considering this.

XIII. FINANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Parish Finance Council (PFC) continues to work with the bank regarding the parish loan. A new Legacy Campaign is reaching out to high donors to offset the parish debt. The goal of the Legacy Campaign is to raise up to \$3 million of which we have \$1 million already. The weekly collection is up 6.5% over last year and e-giving is close to 25% of the weekly collection.

XIV. OTHER COMMITTEE UPDATES OR “NEW BUSINESS”

No new business.

XV. NEXT MEETING

April 15, 2020 - Due to COVID-19 this will be a ZOOM meeting.

XVI. CLOSING PRAYER

The council prayed the Our Father and called to mind their own personal intentions.