

MEETING: 01/10/2022  
4:30 PM – 5:30 PM  
AGENDA FORMAT

## PARISH COUNCIL AGENDA

DATE\_1-10-22\_\_\_\_\_

(NOTE – NOT ALL ITEMS BELOW WILL BE COVERED DURING  
A MEETING BUT SERVE AS A GUIDE FOR TOPICS OF FUTURE MEETINGS)

Council members serve as Parish advisors to the Pastor

1. **Worship:** the heart of parish life is the celebration of the Eucharist. From the Eucharist flows all of the worship, prayer and faith formation of the parish.
2. **Education:** Forming the lay faithful for mission depends on a variety of educational programs
3. **Community:** : Building community begins with welcoming. Vitality is found in a parish's ability to make all members feel at home and to open-wide the doors of the parish to welcome inactive Catholics and all who seek a relationship with the Lord.
4. **Service:** This dimension of parish life assesses the ways in which the parish calls parishioners to serve all those in need. It evaluates the parish's commitment bring the Gospel to bear on the issues of the day in a way that supports the mission of the church.
5. **Administration / Stewardship:** the ability to carry out the mission of the church depends on strong leadership. In this area, staffing, management of parish resources and decision-making processes are evaluated.

COUNCIL: DEBRA, LOUISE, DAN, KEN, CLAUDIA , MARK, BOB, SCOTT, LISA & MINUTES:  
LESLIE

STAFF: FR MIKE, FR SIMON, RYAN

TOPICS FOR MEETING

MEETING 4:30PM

---

10 – Opening Prayer

---

> Pastor News, Action Items, Topics –

---

UPDATES AND NEWS FROM:

---

DIRECTOR OF FAMILY – Parish event update

---

DIRECTOR OF LITURGY

---

DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS

---

FR SIMON

---

Council: Debra, Louise, Dan, Ken (not in attendance), Claudia, Mark (not in attendance),, Bob, Scott, Lisa and minutes Leslie

Staff: Fr. Mike, Fr. Simon and Ryan.

Pastor, News, Action Items, Topics:

Fr. Mike & Bob led the meeting agenda. Fr Mike spoke of the very recent passing of Raleigh, St. Bernard's organist, and the interest of parishioners and people outside the parish inquiring about his funeral, on Thursday, Jan 13, 2022 at 11:00 AM.

Fr. Mike met with Ryan, Kent and Fr. Simon to address the use of the Parish Hall for a variety of functions. Some issues addressed were: the use for weddings, funerals, celebrations; establishing a fee structure; perhaps an extra cost using the kitchen facility; audio is to be used only by Chris; the time and frequency for the use of the coffee shop. A Coordinator will be needed to oversee and schedule the use of the hall, kitchen, coffee shop and audio system.

Fr. Mike highlighted a numerous amount of events scheduled for the latter part of January and throughout February including 4 funerals. Events and increased Masses will be in the bulletin.

Gustavo, an NPH medical school graduate, will be here from January 21 through February 21, 2022. He will be available to attend a number of parish ministry events. A council member suggested Gustavo give a short talk before Masses the weekend of January 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>.

AC Update: Small roof air conditioners will be in by the end of January. The large units are ordered and hopefully will be on site by Easter.

Building and Funding Update: January 20, 2022 there will be a meeting with the Capital Campaign to review results of the campaign during the Christmas season.

Parish Council New Member announcement: Bob reported there will be a need for new members on the council due to impending member relocations out of the area and a present member stepping down from participation in the council.

Parishioner harassing staff issue discussed: (Confidential)

#### UPDATES AND NEWS FROM:

Director of Family: Ryan reported Jim Spina will facilitate an Apologetics Bible Study for 8 weeks, starting January 26, 2022 on the first Wednesday of every month. The Synod Round Table event has 18 people participating at this time. The meeting takes place January 27, 2022 at 6:00.

Three hundred women are already registered for the Blessed She Retreat taking place February 18<sup>th</sup> through 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

A representative from Catholic Cemeteries will be here February 27, 2022 after all Masses to give a presentation for parishioners on the process for preparation for a funeral .

Every Thursday St. Bernard's youth meet for a bible study.

The Diocese of Phoenix is supporting a year long effort starting March 25, 2022 to assist pregnant and parenting women in need. A parish inventory is taking place to

identify the women in need and determine how to best serve them through a mentorship model. The mentor could introduce the woman and baby to the community; provide spiritual resources; a Meal Train for the mother; perhaps babysitting service or direction to other Diocesan approved services.

Ryan reported the young adult bible study group meets on Thursdays in the coffee shop from 8:00 to 10:00 PM. They go to adoration and then out to socialize together.

A discussion developed around the theme of expected prompt consumption of the Sacred Host during communion in contrast to carrying the unconsumed Host to one's seat or other area in the church. Council members offered some suggestions to increase parishioner awareness of the expected protocol and assistance in becoming aware of contrary behavior by: 1) making an announcement of the correct procedure and incorrect behavior and 2) using some hospitality volunteers to observe distribution of Communion.

FR SIMON reported there is a need for seniors in assisted living facilities to receive the sacrament of reconciliation. He would like to see that this sacrament is provided at least one time a year to those in these facilities who cannot attend Mass or make a confession.

Fr. Simon has received positive feedback from people attending our church for the first time noting the positive effect hospitality greeters provide and loving the liturgy.

There is an increase in attendance for the Padre Pio group meeting and Mass on Mondays and the Divine Mercy group devotion and Mass on Wednesdays.

Louise confirmed that as a new parishioner she felt welcomed into the community by the actions of the hospitality volunteers serving as greeters.

#### ACTIONS, ITEMS & NOTES:

Bob spoke about his support for NPH and his desire to support Fr. Simon's foundation "Maria Africa Foundation." How to invite people to support this foundation which provides financial support of \$500.00 to a student to attend school for a year or (\$1000.00) to live at the school they attend was discussed. People could host small gatherings in their homes to increase awareness of the foundation. Beverages and refreshments could be provided to increase opportunity for fellowship and interest in providing monetary support.

Louise suggested replacing our flags with new ones due to the present ones showing wear. Bob will take care of this.

Claudia identified a very worn/torn area of a seat in the church which needs to be fixed.

Deb discussed a recent experience during a Mass with a boy who was sick. He continually blew his nose throughout the Mass and didn't demonstrate good hygiene skills. Deb and other nearby parishioners relocated at a distance from him to other areas of the church. A bulletin reminder of the use of masks to reduce potential for contamination from someone sick could be effective.

Fr. Mike mentioned parishioners are asking when First Communion and Confirmation is scheduled. Nothing is scheduled until there is feedback on a schedule provided by the Bishop.

The next council meeting is February 14, 2022 at 4:30 PM.

Submitted by: Leslie Arnison  
Recording secretary