

St. Raphael Pastoral Council Meeting
Monday, March 18, 2019 Minutes

Present: Fr. Mike Salah, Fr. Dan Gallagher, Larry Boesch, Craig Correa, Dave DeSalle, Jim O'Donnell, Jane Coburn, Jim Damron, Mark Dirlam, Silvia Abulrach, Joe Feyder, Karen Sachs, Teri Dwyer, Duina Reyes

1. Opening prayer - [Luke 13:1-9](#)
 - Focus on scripture ideas to start the meeting
2. Approval of [November Minutes](#)
 - Approved after amount of donation to St. Raphael amended
3. Election of Vice Chair
 - Jim Damron elected Vice Chair
4. Reports Q&A – ***NOTE: All who present reports at the Council meeting should now distribute your reports in advance and we will simply discuss any questions you have at the meeting.***
5. Old Business Follow-Up
 - a. Reserved seats
 - Family who won reserved seats for 12/24/18 but did not get them will receive them for 12/24/19
 - b. Parish mission postponed until 2020; in search of possible dates
 - Lots of planning required
 - Chairperson and organization needed; involvement from all departments and many volunteers needed
 - Redemptorists agreed upon as a good group to invite
 - c. Lights
 - Hopefully done by the end of March; by Easter at the latest?
 - ***Will include update regarding lights in bulletin***
 - Problem with transferring system; circuits overloaded; some lights removed until LEDs are in
 - If delayed we may use adapters with LEDS in the interim
 - Waiting for PEPCO approval
 - Possibly adding additional dimmers around the Church and school
 - d. Interfaith service around Thanksgiving
 - Looking for a date; space and scheduling a problem; we may not be able to host
 - Other interfaith involvement will be sought

6. Email Business Settled

- a. Large print missals
- b. **Parking lot stripes to be repainted** (as part of parking lot 'renovation')
 - Water stagnation, gutters fixed, lines repainted, etc.
 - About \$158,000 project; awaiting bids
 - Possible restructuring of spots from angled to parallel

For bulletin:

Trumpet Room bathrooms to be redone - Aging school fund

Bathrooms in the church redone - parish budget

New computers

New phone system for Church offices

Roofing - see Eileen for list of items that will be done

Rectory mold from backyard water

\$650,000+ in projects

Drains to be run to collection pond

Collections are steady

Possibly adding collection amounts Eileen/Elaine - add what next week's collection will be for

7. New Business

- a. Parish based social media account and/or discussion board
 - Could be good
 - Would require monitoring multiple times daily
 - Risk assessment needed?
 - Don't have staff to do it; would need volunteer
 - Build a team to run/monitor
 - *Any ADW recommendations?*
 - Flock Notes?
- b. Screen in Church?
 - As an aid for reading/to replace worship aids
 - Size needed would be a distraction
 - Due to design of Church, screens would block statues
 - *Visit other churches that have them?*

- Mixed interest
- Table the idea; revisit if needed
- c. Additional security cameras around Church?
 - School is looking into additional cameras with ‘aging school funds’
 - New security fund may be used
 - PA system does not work in Trumpet room; needs fixing
 - Cameras outdated and will be fixed
 - For Church: how would they be useful?
 - Receptionist could monitor both Church and School
 - Vote of council for NO inside Church
 - *Consider security volunteer instead of cameras, during Mass*

**Review ADW security plan and tweak for St. Raphael*

We don't have buzzers but if anyone is uncomfortable one can call 911

- d. Penance service - short prayer service first or direct to confessions?
 - Short service led by a deacon while confessions have started
 - Maximize time for confessions
- e. Temperature and lighting
 - Some are cold
 - New doors coming; should help with temperature issues
- f. Greeting during Mass
 - Some don't like at the beginning at the Mass
 - Overwhelming response of people liking it and wanting it to return
- g. Engaging the Mission**
 - Brief update on ADW meeting
 - Will prioritize new parishioners
 - Follow up of new members
 - Plan will be developed and shared
 - Formalize a script for announcements?
- 8. Other Items?
 - Some scam emails still being received; continue reminders; area issue
 - Good wishes for Fr. Mike's trip to Israel
 - Greeting will be added in 2 weeks at 1pm Mass
 - Ministry fair after a 1pm Mass in June
 - *New member announcement invitation to go in bulletin*
 - Additional greeters to be added at Masses? Will be investigated
- 9. Pastor's Remarks
- 10. Next meeting? - May
- 11. Notes for year for ADW

12.

13. Closing Prayer