

# St. Raphael Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

March 15, 2021

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

**Members Present:** Silvia Abularach, Michelle Aldridge, Jane Coburn, Jim Damron (Chair), Mark Dirlam, Teri Dwyer, Joe Feyder, Walter Gunz, Debbie Hynes, Janet Leonard-Walker, Sally McClean, Fr. Michael Salah

The Meeting was called to order by Jim Damron at 7:05 p.m.

The minutes from the November 16, 2020 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Fr. Mike told the Council that a number of parishioners have expressed an interest in remodeling the existing baptistry space into an adoration chapel. Due to local code restraints, we cannot expand the footprint of the current church building or build a new structure. The renovation of the existing baptistry space would be allowed, however. The concept would be to install a glass wall where the existing space intersects with the walkway between the narthex and the sacristy. An entrance door would be installed through the existing brick wall that stands along the sidewalk by the side entrance on the organ/choir loft side. The existing stained glass window would remain in place and the baptistry would be relocated to the front entrance area of the nave, possibly in the narthex. This would facilitate a 24-hour adoration schedule and other times of private prayer. Fr. Mike asked for thoughts from the Council, who were supportive pending more specific information, and asked that members talk with other parishioners to gauge their responses.

St. Raphael School Principal, Teri Dwyer, reported that the school is thriving. They have been able to offer students a virtual learning option but currently 90% have elected to be in the classroom four days per week. The virtual option has been used, and can be used again, if there is any evidence of COVID exposure. She also reported that a generous grant made possible the renovation of the school restrooms, including touches faucets, which help reduce the possibility of infection transmission.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.