



**St. Michael the Archangel Roman Catholic Church  
Parish Council Meeting  
824 Pershing Drive, Silver Spring, MD  
Monday, December 2, 2019  
7:00 p.m.**

**AGENDA**

**St. Michael's Mission:**

Guided by the Holy Spirit, St. Michael the Archangel Church brings the parish and the community closer to the Lord through worship, love and stewardship so that all may be one in Christ.

**St. Michael's Vision:**

A dynamic community of faith, celebrating our growing diversity as a beacon of the new evangelization.

PRESENT: Rev. Msgr. Eddie Tolentino, Rev. Santiago Martin, Lisa Taylor, Eliamelisa Gonzalez, Edwin Mendez, Esnath Mtonga, Christina Sian, Dhel Freolo, John Webster, Anna Smith, Helder Hernandez, Renee Holder.

**I. Call to Order and Welcome**

**Lisa Taylor 7:05 p.m.**

**II. Opening Prayer/Reflection**

**Msgr. Tolentino**

A.) Monsignor Tolentino provided a beautiful reflection on advent and how in the midst of the darkness we are called to hope. In addition, he provided everyone three questions to reflect. They are the following: What has been the darkest time in your life? Did you have hope in the midst of that darkness? How was having hope in times of darkness changed your experience of the darkness? Everyone reflected on the questions to the Parish Council members.

**III. Approval of the November Minutes**

**Eliamelisa Gonzalez**

A.) Monsignor Tolentino first / John Webster seconded

**IV. Approval of Agenda**

**Lisa Taylor**

A.) Anna Smith would like to speak about the Winter Drive  
B.) Eliamelisa first / Esnath Mtonga seconded

**V. Welcome to New Parish Council Member Dhel Freolo Lisa Taylor**

A.) Lisa welcomed new parish council member, Dhel Freolo

**A. Life and Dignity of the Human Person**

**(Lisa Taylor, lead & Eliamelisa)**

a.) Lisa explained and reminded the chart of the parish council 2018 retreat ideas to everyone, as well as the vitalities. February 3 each member will report on each social teaching.

**1. Diaper Drive** – Drive ends November 30, 2019

**2. CRASE Training** – Scheduled for January 13, 2020  
Edwin requests Lisa to look for a training in Spanish

**B. Call to Family, Community and Participation**

Lisa reminded everyone's responsibilities in the seven principles, and she also reminded everyone which parish council members belong to each. In this vitality, the following members are part of it:

**(Edwin Mendez & Renee Holder, lead & John Webster, Esnath Mtonga)**

Flocknotes will be implemented, per John Webster's request. This was in reference to the parish survey idea.

Monsignor requests new people to help in this principle. Renee Holder will now be the lead for this vitality. Edwin will still be part of it, but not as lead.

**C. Rights and Responsibilities**

Lisa reminded everyone's responsibilities in the seven principles, and she also reminded everyone which parish council members belong to each. In this vitality, the following members are part of it:

**(Marisela Tobar, lead, Jason Giovannettone)**

**D. Option for the Poor and Vulnerable**

Lisa reminded everyone's responsibilities in the seven principles, and she also reminded everyone which parish council members belong to each. In this vitality, the following members are part of it:

**(Anna Smith is lead, Edwin, Helder, Fr. Santiago)**

**1. Winter Clothing Drive (Deacon Curtis or Lisa Taylor)**

Lisa asks Anna to send her an email about the action report.

Anna helped. Jason Moore, his partner Karen and Jason G. helped.

Everything turned out very well. Jason Moore said he will donate to a clothing drive place whatever it was left over.

Kelly Gladden bought about 30 pizzas. For next time, advise is given that we have more people organizing it.

We should thank Jason Moore formally. Lisa requests Monsignor to write a thank you note to him.

**E. Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers**

Lisa reminded everyone's responsibilities in the seven principles, and she also reminded everyone which parish council members belong to each. In this vitality, the following members are part of it:

**(John Webster as lead & Deacon Curtis)** Monsignor Tolentino suggested to add Helder Hernandez as part of this group. Helder accepted.

A.) Wages of St. Michael's staff & sound system accessible has already been implemented, per John Webster.

**F. Solidarity (Cristina Sian as lead, Dhel Freolo, Esnath Mtonga & Deacon Curtis)**

A.) Cristina Sian requests help with translation next time they have the immigration and health fair. Monsignor said we need to find the people and the necessary equipment.

B.) Monsignor requests to look over at the principles and see the realities that are going on, what can we upgrade. This means that at any moment, we can go and review them.

C.) John Webster: Completed translation system in church.

D.) Monsignor asks that anything that has been completed to put an O next to it.

E.) Lisa will update the document.

F.) Christina said that the Health Fair was very well attended. Event started at 9:00 a.m. and finished about 3:30 p.m. When it came to consultation for legal services, they needed translation. Christina also reported that the Filipino Ministry will be its Filipino Christmas celebration on December 15, 2019.

G.) Monsignor requests all this to be in the Parish Times. Also, a story about Jason, and other things going on.

**G. Care for God's Creation (Jason Giovannettone & Monsignor Tolentino)**

1. Montgomery County Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions (MC-FACS)  
Dec 17 from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm at St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church in the Williamsburg Room

2. St. Gabriel Catholic Green committee tour to show off some of their parish's green efforts

3. Going Green with Worship – Esnath is been thinking about the missalettes, she asks is it possible to get rid of the missalettes.  
We will pick this up next time.

4. John Webster will give a report on Faith Direct at the next meeting

Lisa will start calling parish council leads on January 9. It is suggested that leads meet with members before the end of the year.

Reminders about the vitalities were also mentioned:

Monsignor Tolentino – Administration, Worship, Education  
Father Santiago – Service, Community and vocations

Monsignor Tolentino asks Dhel Freolo to help with worship. In addition, Edwin and Eliamelisa are also part of Worship. Monsignor requests to schedule a meeting with worship committee.

Anna Smith is looking to retire in May from leading the service committee.

Education – Lisa will take over

Administration / Stewardship – John Webster

Communications Committee, and Finance Council, Membership

Invite Lisa, Edwin, Webster, and Monsignor Tolentino

Service – Anna will help Father Santiago with this vitality.

Lisa will revise everything.

Monsignor reminds that the goal for this evening is that everyone will meet before Christmas to talk about each principle.

**VII. Report from the Finance Council**

**John Webster**

- A. Good news. Looking at the monthly operating income, in month of October we are in balance.
- B. October mass count – Every year ushers do a detailed form to turn to the archdiocese of Washington.

**VIII. Report from the Hispanic Committee**

**Helder Hernandez**

- A. A new member joined. Paulina Colina, who has been a member of Saint Michaels for many years. She also helps Ligia Pasquel as catechist for the Spanish RCIA.
- B. Formation for members of the Hispanic committee in reference to the seven principles of Catholic Social Teaching will happen sometime in February. This workshop will also be open to parishioners.
- C. December celebrations – Our Lady of Guadalupe – December 12.  
Our Lady of Guadalupe – Monsignor requests the homily to be translated to English.
- D. Christmas Party – December 15, 2019.
- E. More details coming up on email.

**IX. Administrative Matters**

**Lisa Taylor**

**A. Take the Next Steps Campaign**

Started weekend of November 30 & December 1.

ADW will come in and do a summary of the data collected.

There will be a follow up.

**B. Annual Parish Council Christmas Party ~ January 6, please sign up here:**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090F45ACA92AA5FC1-parish>

We will do a white elephant gift

**C. Parish Council Retreat is scheduled for February 28-29, 2019 at Priest Field Pastoral Center in Kearneysville**

100% attendance is required.

**D. St. Michael's email and Parishioners Databases – We need to bring that up.**

**E. Evangelization Meeting - No report**

**F. Upcoming Meeting Schedule**

- a. January 6, 2020
- b. February 3, 2020
- c. March 2, 2020
- d. April 6, 2020
- e. May 4, 2020
- f. June 1, 2020

**G. Pending Business**

**Lisa Taylor/Parish Council**

**H. New Business**

**Lisa Taylor**

**I. Closing Prayer**

**Father Santiago**

**Next Meeting: January 6, 2019**

***REMINDER*** –Parish Council members assigned to serve as liaison officers to Councils, Committees and Ministries are responsible for serving as ministry coordinators and for keeping the Parish Council informed of ministry activities and new information or challenges of which the Council should be aware through monthly reports submitted no later than one week in advance of a Council meeting.