

Church of St. Francis Xavier

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 11, 2022 • 6:30 p.m.
Zoom

Attendance: Pat Egan, Karen DeMasi, Joel Dabu, Andrea Foley-Murphy, Kristen Beckles, Ken Boller, Belinda Conway, Catherine O'Hagan Wolfe, Cara Caponi

1. Pastor's Report

- Omicron- Seems to be cresting. Family Faith programming virtual, RCIA also virtual.
- Renovations- Hurtado Hall bathrooms are near finished. Meeting with PCFC to brainstorm ideas for Hurtado Hall in about 6 weeks.
- Security- Camera installation started.
- Attendance/donations- Attendance light during 9am, Family Faith virtual. Couple hundred people at 11:30. Donations- Christmas donations were down from prior years. Trend overall also down. A number of people dropped off Faith Direct, some have restored their payments, but others have not.

2. Project Updates

- SFX Art Project – Patricia planning to complete paintings by Easter, framing after that. Phase 2, Kelly Latimore -follow up on the narthex. Roll out planning, how to celebrate, publicity. Idea for future consideration, audio recording of descriptions and/or how they connect to the saints.
- Racial Justice Pledge – Feedback from the parish considered and incorporated. Roll out at the Ministry Retreat, request that committee present the updated pledge to the group. Proposal to briefly provide a statement to the congregation to roll it out with context. Text will be shared with staff. Process has been engaged, prayerful, and important. Highlight the effort of the committee.
- Catholic Anti-Racism Project (CARP) – Reach out to John to check in.
- SFX Oral History Project – “From Age to Age,” podcast series of parishioners at Xavier. Doing portraits of 8 pairs on 1/23 in the church. Will be placed onto a podcast feed. Waiting on write ups/bios of each individual. The podcasts are all being transcribed to make them accessible. Mention of getting married at the parish, disclaimer of individual faith journeys and experiences with the prior pastor. Work on wordsmithing the subtitle to be clear released one week at a time. Confirm that storytellers are ready for this to be distributed beyond Xavier
- Healing Prayer Ministry – Ready to start, update in the bulletin, submitted a budget. Has a group of 6-10 healers, some bilingual
- Laudato Si' Action Plan – Integrating into the Ministry Retreat
- Census – SFX staff working on the data entry on the census.

3. Evangelization and Sustaining Parish Life

- Welcome back mailing to parishioners – on backburner, holding for pandemic to ease up
- The meaning of Eucharist – 8 weeks between Easter and Corpus Christi, host a series of spiritual conversations. Use the USCCB document, first Communion, RCIA? Eucharistic adoration. How to include FF parents and children in the conversations. Discussing forum and form of meetings.
- Synod and Synodality – Part of the Ministries Retreat, session with all ministries. Conversation with Bob about structure, Diocese to publish guidance on how to gather comments. Meeting of the lower Manhattan deanery next week, will make sure that it is a topic of discussion. Can send our comments to the archdiocese and to the Vatican as well. Hoping to engage young adults.
- Ministry of Joy – committee is Belinda, Karen, John, Michelle, Pat.

4. PC activities updates

- Ministries Retreat, Fri. Feb 4 and Sat. Feb. 5
 - committee is Belinda, Catherine, John, Pat
 - Sent a save the date to ministries
 - Planning it virtual, church is reserved in case it can happen in person. If not in person, split between Friday night and Saturday morning
 - Stephanie to collect the RSVPs
- PC discernment info sessions begin in Jan/Feb
 - committee is Andrea, Cara, Kristen, Pat
 - 2 PC spots will be available
 - May 1 & 15th discernments
 - April 23 & 24 parish announcements
 - Reserving Mary chapel in case in person is possible, but planning on Zoom
 - Feb 16, March 20th at 3, April 21 7- on zoom
 - Discussion of possible changes to discernment evening process. Goal: Look at what are the things that we want to fix, fix one thing at a time so the impact can be observed.
 - Thinking about recruitment and starting to have conversations with people who may be interested/potential candidates.