

Divine Savior Mission Statement

We the people of Divine Savior Catholic Church, empowered by our baptism, dedicate ourselves to living the Gospel of Jesus. Inspired by the love, justice and mercy of Christ, we are called to share His message in service so that all may know the Savior.

PPC Mission:

To play a collaborative, supportive, consultative and co-responsible role in service to the pastor, staff and the parish community.

Attendees:

Fr. Octavio, Fr. Patric, Gray Allen, Jan Bencken, Brenda Escoto, Laini Harris (Vice-Chair), Bob Healy, Paul Landry (Chair), Nia Welsh, Scot Yearwood; Guest- Mike Hackett

Absent: Kathy Bauer (Secretary), Lynn Johnson-Forbes, Bill Smith * In Kathy's absence, minutes were taken by Jen Yearwood

Opening Prayer:

Jen Yearwood led the prayer and reflection focused on the theme of "gifts" and the scripture from 1 Corinthians -one body in Christ. Members were asked to share the gifts they believe they offer in service to the PPC and DS Community: Jan (problem solving), Scot (joy/positivity), Nia (listening), Brenda (organizing), Bob (peacemaking), Paul (problem solving/fixing), Fr. Octavio (creativity), Gray (team player, collaborative), Laini (team builder), Fr. Patric (encouraging, fun), Jen (leadership)

Minutes June 2023 meeting minutes were approved.

Guest Speaker-Mike Hackett: Financial Update

Mike Hackett, long-time member of the Parish Finance Committee, offered an overview of the current financial situation of the parish, and shared the following:

- regular parish fundraisers that supported the budget were forced to cease during covid; the covid funding that the parish received is no longer part of the picture; as we stand, now 3 months into the fiscal year, a 200k deficit is being projected; to help reduce this projected deficit, the goal would be that 20% (40K) would be raised via fundraisers; additionally, while an emergency fund is in place, we do not want to rely on our reserves;
- Considering fundraising purpose as two-fold: raise funds but also build community
- There is a need for an increase in parishioner contributions; currently 10% of parishioners contribute 80% of the money-need greater numbers of parishioners to share the load; even a small percentage increase makes a difference; encourage registration in the parish and online giving.
- Campus Development Team has done good work in the projection of a five year plan that includes some larger expenses in coming years; on average 50k a year is spent in maintenance.
- There are currently fundraisers that are kicking off at the beginning of October:

- Apple Hill Pies
- Tamales at Christmas
- See's Candy for Christmas
- On March 16, 2024, a Spaghetti Dinner is planned (in replacement of the Crab Feed); many of the elements from the former Crab Feed will be included: silent auction, raffle, etc)
- Mike asked for PPC members to think about potential ideas for fundraising; these can be emailed to him (mhackett@mysecureadvantage.com) or to Jen Yearwood. What is needed is creativity and collaboration over the next 9 months to move the parish in a better financial direction; aim is to balance the budget and sustain/grow our emergency fund.
- The Finance Council will give an update to the parish community at all the Masses on weekend of Oct. 7/8.
- A few ideas were brought forth from council members about helping to get more parishioners engaged and involved in parish life and ministry; also the idea of doing smaller things throughout the year like cotton candy, lumpia, more drive-thru dinners, etc.

PPC Expectations

Paul led an exercise asking PPC members to consider hopes and expectations we have for PPC this year; each member was provided a piece of paper and some time to reflect/record thoughts and insights; responses were collected and compiled (see Appendix A at end of minutes).

PPC Commissions

- Laini gave an overview of the purpose of PPC Commissions and explained that PPC members are a liaison to specific ministries that fall within the umbrella of assigned commission; it is expected that PPC members work together to make connections with ministry leaders to find out: how we can support the ministry; what things are happening in the ministry; what goals the ministry has and so on; members will provide updates and reports to the larger PPC council at meetings periodically throughout the year;
- PPC Commission Assignments were discussed and proposed:
 - Campus Development: Paul Landry and Bill Smith
 - Word & Worship: Bob, Nia, Kathy
 - Community Life/Welcome/Outreach: Lynn, Gray, Brenda
 - Social Justice: La, Jan, Scot

Parish events

Jen provided an update on various upcoming events:

- There is a clean-out of the storage bins in the back parking lot scheduled for Tues. Oct. 3rd- any PPC members who can help, please plan to come at 9am.

- Eucharistic Revival- kick off of the overall theme and Eucharistic Revival (ER) in our parish occurred last weekend; parish theme is :Encountering Jesus through Communion (in the Eucharist and community with one another); in addition to weekly adoration there will be other activities and events in line with ER- light nights (first Friday evenings of each month Oct through June); personal Ignatian Retreat Experience (runs for 10 weeks beginning Oct. 16th); goal is to infuse the ER theme into the many things we are already doing as well.
- The Harvest Fest is planned for Oct. 29th from 12:30-4:30pm; PPC is asked to help staff a game booth and consider participating in Trunk or Treat.
- Jen will be sending out a link for Vestibule Presence via signupgenius.com; members are asked to sign up for at least one time slot per month and more if possible; this presence is helpful for times when there are events/activities (like fundraising orders) but also to get to know the members of the community that we are called to serve.
- Jan shared briefly about a presentation that Brother Silas will be offering on Sunday, Oct. 15th at 5pm; focus is on Salvatorian Mission and Spirit

Review of PPC Calendar:

Paul reviewed the Calendar for this upcoming year and also noted specific areas of responsibility that will need to be covered.

- It was determined that November's meeting will be on Nov. 30th.
- A date needs to be set for the PPC Christmas Party- host/location is TBD.
- Need to identify planning team for Christmas Party
- Need to identify lead and planning team for parish Mardi Gras celebration on Feb. 13, 2024
- Need to identify lead for Lenten Stations of the Cross/Soup Night (one Friday during Lent)
- Need to identify lead for Good Friday Stations of the Cross (PPC is responsible for 1 of the 14 stations) on March 29, 2024.
- Need to identify Refreshment Coordinator for remaining PPC meetings this year.

Priest Updates:

1. Fr. Octavio will offer a presentation on Dia de los Muertos on Sunday, Oct. 15th at the Family Faith Event in English (open to the parish) following 11:30am Mass and in Spanish following the 5pm Mass;
2. Fr. Octavio and Fr. Patric will be away at the Diocesan Priests Convocation in Lake Tahoe from Oct. 2-6th; there will be morning Mass on the 2nd but not on the 3rd-6th.

Closing Prayer

Fr. Octavio led the closing prayer: "Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful"

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Our next meeting will be Oct. 26th at 6:30pm in Y1.

Appendix A PPC HOPES & EXPECTATIONS 2023-2024

Members were asked to reflect on their hopes and expectations for the PPC for this coming year:

Paul- I expect the PPC would be harnessing our time and services toward the highest priority items benefitting our parish; finances; awareness of Christ.

I hope the PPC group as a whole could come to consensus while developing the list of projects/tasks that need accomplishment.

Scot- My expectation for PPC is to support and lift the mission of Divine Savior and the Catholic Church. This can be accomplished by supporting our priests, ministries, increasing participation by parishioners, fundraising, etc. to further the Kingdom of God.

My hope is to continue to provide assistance to the parish where needed. One example is to continue to commit to regularly participating in the life of the parish.

Brenda- My expectation is that PPC will find ways to utilize my imagination to help keep our parish thriving- economically, spiritually, and every way possible.

My hope is to contribute life's experiences which can possibly activate some positive, forward movement in our congregation numbers, via outreach, activities, and love. ***Brenda also provided a full list of ideas/thoughts for consideration. Jen will review and share accordingly. (Thank you Brenda for taking the time to do this!)

Nia-My expectation of the PPC is that we would be a voice of the parish- communicating needs/wants/concerns of parishioners; to represent all; to support the parish.

My hope is that PPC is listening to parishioners; is a welcome mat for all; help retain/recruit parishioners.

Jan- My expectation is that PPC provides a voice for the people in the pews regarding the parish activities, projects, operations, spiritual growth and expression of the Gospel teaching in our community and lives; advising and sharing the diversity of views.

My hope is that PPC is a channel between parish and diocese for communication, pulling together of resources to grow our Christian witness throughout the broader community locally and world-wide.

Gray- My expectation is that PPC helps increase parishioner involvement in ministries.

My hope is for PPC to help increase attendance at Mass and tithing.

Laini- My expectation is that we continue to develop and enact the concept of Co-Responsibility and Accountability that the Diocese put forth in 2021; this requires further efforts in conjunction with the priests and parish staff.

My hope is that PPC can help increase parish participation in the life of the parish; to know the gifts and talents of our parishioners and encourage active involvement.

Appendix A PPC HOPES & EXPECTATIONS 2023-2024 (cont.)

Bob- My expectation is that PPC represents parishioners and their needs to the priests and staff to help support (spiritually, communally, physically) and address these needs; to act as servant leaders.

My hope is to reach out from this community to the greater Orangevale/Sacramento community.

Jen- My expectation is for PPC to serve as a bridge between the parish community and the priests/staff through collaboration, support, leadership.

My hope is that a vision for parish life at DS is formed together with priests/staff/ppc; that all would work together to grow a vibrant, active, life-giving community of faith.

Fr. Patric- My expectation is that my role on PPC be consultative; I expect to be consulted with Fr. Octavio when actions are being considered.

My hope is we will find effective solutions to alleviate our present parish financial concerns.