

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of
St. Joseph of Cupertino Parish Advisory Council
February 2, 2023**

TIME: 7:00 pm

PLACE: Zoom Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ishani Fernando	Judith Karunanayake	Karen Lee
Laura Lo	Sam Morris	Henry Pavy
Maureen Pavy	Martin Pytel	

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Father Michael Syjueco	Janice LaMotte	Father Mendie Nguyen
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OTHERS ABSENT:

Father Anthony Nguyen

A. Preliminaries

- The regular meeting of the advisory council was held remotely at the above date and time.
- Call to order: Meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm.
- Opening Prayer: Fr. Michael
- *Action Items:* Action items are *italicized* in the PAC Minutes.

B. Open Forum

Patrick Kwok – Parish Finance Committee and School Finance Committee

- School is part of the parish; parents support collections, bingo, etc.
- Issues: Declining enrollment; currently only 139 students – about ½ of where it was 5 years ago. Based on Kindergarten/1st grade enrollment, this trend looks to continue. Currently reaching out to other parishes where there is no school to try to recruit more students. FUHSD and CUSD provide high quality public education, so many parents who move here send their children to those schools rather than pay for Catholic education. Also, pandemic has affected enrollment.
- Ability to increase tuition is limited, as it could further decrease enrollment. Increase of 5% this year. Cost to educate a child is ~\$16000/year, but typical payment is ~\$10000/year with discounts for service, in-parish, multiple children, etc.
- Fundraising efforts along with parish subsidy make up the difference. Agreement in the past was that 75% of Bingo receipts go to church; remainder to Knights of Columbus/Holy Names. Prior to the pandemic Bingo revenue would go to the church, which would distribute the funds among the Knights of Columbus, Holy Names, and the school, with the school getting checks twice a year. Bingo money is in the school budget, but for the past two years the school has not

received any money. Currently only one Bingo per week as the Knights of Columbus have not resumed Bingo since the pandemic. A discussion is upcoming to determine whether to return to two nights per week.

- School has been dipping into reserves but cannot continue to do this much longer.
- Request for second collections to support the school. Suggestion is that the second collection on the first Sunday of every other month would go to the school. This will help to keep the tuition affordable so the school can compete with others in the area. Second request is to get \$40000 of the church subsidy now and another \$40000 in the fall.
- Q. Do other parishes hold a collection to raise money for the school?
 - Do not know. However, declining enrollment is occurring at other Catholic schools in the area.
- Q. How will this affect the parish budget?
 - The funds will be coming from the Bingo revenue, not from the parish. Last year the subsidy was not provided because there was no Bingo.
- John Caldwell, Holy Names president, says Bingo attendance has been increasing, putting the church in a better position to look at how much subsidy they could give the school. Currently, Bingo money goes in the Holy Names account; statements have to be reviewed to determine how much can go to the school.
- Fr. Michael is open to having a second collection for the school but must consider how best to do it.
- From July to current, a total of about \$28000 has been collected over 9 second collections. There are still 11 more collections between now and the end of June.
- Could the parish do other fundraisers for the school, for example a brunch or something like that?

AI: Fr. Michael to provide current list of second collections to figure out how to fit in collections for the school.

C. January 2023 PAC Minutes

Martin noted one change, to clarify that the Lunar New Year celebration would be after the 11:00AM Mass. He moved to adopt the minutes with that change and Ishani seconded. The motion to adopt the modified minutes was approved.

D. Meeting Topics:

- Council Member Succession
 - No Updates
- PAC/Parishioner Communication
 - Tabled
- Ministry Recruitment
 - Maureen and Janice to meet to discuss ministry fair. Thinking to do the fair in the month of March. Ministries will be broken into groups with a few ministries tabling on each weekend. Fr. Michael suggests including Holy Names and Ladies' Guild.
- Parish Enrichment / Calendar Review
 - Will try to have Taizé on Holy Wednesday.
 - May 13 – October 13 will be the Fatima Crusade. Celebrated on the 13th of each month; includes Procession, Rosary, and Healing of the Sick
 - Suggest we indicate both All Soul's Day and Mass of Remembrance on Nov 2.
 - Suggest we add Grandparent's Day—July 24 this year (Fourth Sunday of July). Last year we did a prayer on that day.
 - Scout Sunday is this Sunday February 5. Need to have this in the calendar to coordinate

in advance.

- A lot of the mothers that led the Girl Scouts have left the school, so they may not be able to do anything for Valentine's Day.
- Frs. Michael and Mendie Ordination Anniversary Party
 - School ends on June 9, suggest doing the party on June 11 after the 11:00 Mass.
 - Ana/Sabrina to organize; can coordinate with Hospitality.

E. Pastoral Associate Report

- There is currently nothing slated for Valentine's Day. Fr. Michael suggests a workshop for couples during that week (Witness to Love, coordinated by Regnum Christi). That is also the week of the Dr. Bergsma presentation. Perhaps rather than have the workshop that week it may be a good time to promote such a workshop. Also that Sunday is the Community Mass.

Al: Fr. Michael and Janice to see if promotional materials can be handed out for Valentine's Day and coordinate with Kelly for hospitality.

- Fr. Christopher is open to doing a Lenten retreat
- YLI is doing a "handicapable" lunch this weekend
- Rite of Election and Rite of Sending in February during Lent
- Fr. Bergsma is speaking on February 18

Al: Janice to provide a writeup to Judith about Formed and she will see that it gets into the newsletter.

- Items that need to be seen by School Parents should go into Parent's Square.
- Grief support is now in person on the 3rd Sunday of the month

Al: Janice to check that people are getting sympathy cards and invitation to grief support.

F. Pastor's Report

- ADA Kickoff is this weekend – Fr. Michael will speak at each Mass. Our goal this year is \$124000.
- Diocesan Synod was this weekend; participants voted to determine the top 48 proposals out of a list of 96. People were listening to each other and hopeful about the proposals.
- Met with group from Regnum Christi regarding Witness to Love program for engaged and married couples; this will be promoted through the school as well. Will also meet with them on a program for single women.
- Lunar New Year this weekend. Kenny is spearheading and has a good group of volunteers.
- Pasquale concert tickets will be sold after each Mass this weekend to promote the concert.
- Mr. Pasquale and his assistant will be visiting the church soon to check it out.
- Judith had two women in mind to serve as vice chair for the Ladies' Guild. Has talked to one of them and she does not have time; still trying to talk to the second one. A few other women are being considered, but it is difficult because many of these women are already taking on a lot of responsibilities within the school.
- Ladies' Guild is a parish organization – both Church and School. Would like it to be lay-driven, not staff-driven.
- Legion of Mary will begin meetings next Monday. They will take the lead for Fatima Crusade.
- Still need suggestions for how to use ADA funds.
 - A/V update for community center and potentially for church
 - Repainting the Youth Ministry room.
 - Perhaps money towards events for youth ministry

Closing Prayer for this meeting: Fr. Michael
Opening Prayer for next meeting: Fr. Mendie
Next Meeting Date: March 2, 2023

PAC Objectives

- *Inspire parishioners to be more involved in putting their faith into action.*
- *PAC members exercise effective leadership in the parish community.*