

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes  
September 25, 2022  
5:00 PM – Father Sullivan Center

**Attendees:** Clergy: Father Dillon Members: Yolande Eldridge, Fran Wainer, Debra Falvey, Greer Koerner, Jill Kennelly, Betty Jane Schiller, Jody Fay (via phone), Milam Langella, Beth Kozarec Peer Ministers: Gianna Amter, Gage Mongelli

**Absent:** Trustees: Thomas Duffy, Bill White Members: Carol McCormick, Sue Croce  
Peer Ministers: Matt Celotto

**Opening Prayer:** Father Dillon opened the meeting with a prayer at 5:05

**Approval of the Minutes:** The members received a copy of the proposed minutes, by email, to review. The minutes were approved without correction.

**Welcome to New Members:** The new members of the Pastoral Council; Betty Jane Schiller, Jody Fay and Milam Langella were welcomed to the council as well as new peer minister Gianna Amter.

**Pastor's Update:** The parish will be welcoming Deacon Steven to the parish this coming week. He previously was at Our Lady of Mount Carmel but has recently moved to Branford and is eager to begin his new role as deacon at St. George.

The blessing of the animals will occur next Saturday, on the green. On Sunday (10/2) Archbishop Blair will be saying mass @ the 10am service.

There are several weddings that are upcoming, 3 in October; 1 in November; and 1 in December.

The parish picnic went well, as did the St. George carnival in August.

**Parish Liaison Report:** The first week of CCD will be October 11<sup>th</sup>. There are ~560 kids enrolled, which is slightly down from last year's attendance.

Security installation will be going up in the hall in the coming weeks.

From a meeting several weeks ago with the diocese, Archbishop Blair has asked that all parishes will recite a prayer for vocations at the end of Mass. This will replace the St. Michael's prayer. Currently, there are 90 deacons in the Diocese of Hartford and about half will retire by 2030.

**Updating the Ministry List:** The ministry list was divided up among several pastoral council members. Each will reach out to the contact for each ministry to get updated information on that ministry and report back to Betty who will update the master list. Targeting completion of this project to occur by the next Pastoral Council meeting on 10/23.

Yolande will reach out to Val to confirm she is still the contact for Little Miracles.

Yolande and Betty will put together a script for the council members to reference when reaching out to ministries.

Fran will put a notice in the weekly bulletin that the parish council will be updating the ministry list and Pastoral Council members will be reaching out to ministry contacts.

When sending updates to Betty for the ministry master list, preference is to send via word doc.

Below are pastoral council members responsible for ministry sections:

- Prayer – Greer
- Rosary – Jill
- Comfort & Support – Jody
- Social Activities – Jill
- Education – Greer
- Parish Support (thru Healing Garden) – Carol
- Parish Support (remainder) – Deb
- Social Outreach (through housing resettlement) - Beth
- Social Outreach (remainder) - Yolande

**Lazareth Ministry:** Father Dillon will re-visit in the future.

**Food/Wine Pairing:** The date will be Friday, Nov 4<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-9pm. The prices reviewed were for approx. 60 people. Betty will take care of the vases and flowers for the event. Jody also offered to donate. No tickets will be sold at the door. The layout for the event would include ~10 standing tables (potentially more depending on final head count). There would also be additional tables for seating and/or chairs along the walls for those unable to stand for long periods of time. Discussed ticket price to be ~ \$25/person. Fran will put notice in the bulletin for next week and if people aren't able to buy tickets after masses, they can contact Yolande to purchase tickets. Due to alcohol being offered, we are unable to have volunteers under the age of 21. Will likely need 15/16 volunteers for servers/runners that should be in black pants and white tops. After covering expenses, should there be any profit, the proceeds can go to benefit coat drive. Jody offered her brother's graphic design/printing services for the tickets. Jody will ask her brother to be in touch with Milam to discuss design for the tickets. Discussed using plastic wine glasses vs. glass. Milam will need a final count a week prior to the event.

**Outdoor Movie:** Yolande reported that it was a fun event. While not a huge audience, everyone had a great time. Lessons learned should we have another event is to consider having it earlier to appeal to younger audiences or movies for an older audience (middle school) that will start later.

**Other Business:** Yolande asked the Peer Minister reps to think about any ideas or thoughts on future projects that the council could support. Goal is to get the kids involved a bit more. The

prison backpack project was extremely successful. We encourage the Youth Reps to think about a project they would like to take on.

Any council member is always able to bring up ideas or topics to discuss in future meetings. At the next meeting in October, we will review the update on the ministries and what the next steps will be to distribute updated information to the parish. Fran mentioned that Abraham's tent might be coming back to St. George for one week in January vs. collecting items for the entire month. She will keep the council updated on progress.

Another idea that was brought up was a potential food pantry touring for the kids.

Deb asked about the availability of info for those individuals interested in learning more about the readings for the funeral mass. Would it be possible to have those available online? Father Dillon mentioned that speaking with individuals for funeral mass preparation provides a more personal touch and reviewing in person allows for more guidance. In person support is preferred over posting information online. However, it could be looked into posting some information online.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted, *Green Koerner, Vice President*