

## **Saint George Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes**

**March 23, 2025**

**Present:** Father Dillon, Yolande Eldridge, Jody Fay, Fran Wainer, Debra Falvey, Betty Jane Schiller, Noreen Wolleben, Jeri Perkins, George Goulet, Maggie Bruno, Bob Keiser and Elizabeth Kozarec

**Guests:** Eileen Montgomery & Peter Perkins

**Absent:** Regina Beausejour, Val Campanelli, Enzo Taverna, Nancy Talalas & Izzy Torello

**The meeting began at 11:47 am with an opening prayer from Father Dillon.**

**Yolande:** Minutes were approved with a small revision.

**Father Dillon:** Rite of Election occurred at the Cathedral. The Saint Joseph's Medal was given to Sue Flood. On March 23, at 4 pm, First Reconciliation is being held. Holy week is coming up and eight people will come into the church at the Easter Vigil. April 20, 2025, is Easter and First Communion. For OCIA we have five people for next year.

**Fran:** In the Peer Ministers' absence, a report was given by Fran. The Peer Ministers are at Trinita this weekend. On March 30, 2025, the 9<sup>th</sup> graders are going on retreat from 10:30 am to 3 pm. On April 5, 2025, Confirmation will happen, and we have about 65 attendees.

**Yolande: Friendly reminder to bring an item for the food pantry at each council meeting.** There are three PC members whose term will be ending this year. There will be a lottery on Pentecost Sunday for three new members and Father Dillon will pull the names guided by the Holy Spirit. We will hold a pre-meeting for those interested in placing their names in the lottery for the Council. Father Dillon will make the announcement at masses.

**Yolande/Deb:** The parish Chili Dinner was on February 8, 2025. There were about 48 attendees. 17 attended the discussion portion of the program. The next book club event will be on June 7, 2025, after the 4 pm mass. Peter will have an outdoor barbeque with chicken and sides. Tickets will be \$20 required in advance. Yolande suggested the book "James" which is about slavery from a slave's perspective. The theme will continue to be "One Book-One Parish".

**George:** Planning another bus trip. Gary from Fun Bus is sending dates for the games available. Probably a late July or August game. George has a friend whose son works for the Yankees and will investigate any possible perks. Options are the Mets, Yankees or Red Sox, either in New York or at Fenway. Bob mentioned a trip to a West Point football game would be a great trip in the fall. Yolande also mentioned an Army/Navy game. Bob is looking into that trip for October.

**Bob/Yolande:** Planning on the high school graduation and the free water bottles sponsored by St. George. We will have signs that the water is sponsored by Saint George. Carrying water was difficult, so SGMG is taking over purchasing, buying, setting up, and breaking down. Bob will arrange. The peer ministers can help as they need service hours to graduate. Any extra water will be donated to the Men's Group. Bob and Pete have it covered with many coolers.

**Other/New Ideas:**

**Sight and Sound Theatre**—Noreen mentioned the “Sight and Sound” theater in Lancaster PA. The 2025 show is Noah. She will know about the 2026 show in May 2025. Parishes that have done this are Saint Ambrose in Middletown and Blessed Sacrament in Rockville. There are day trips or one-to-two-day overnights. Noreen will investigate this further and report back.

**Bereavement Ministry:** Bob mentioned that the bereavement ministry is starting on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, and there are approx six participants thus far. It will be held at the Sullivan Center. Noreen has participated in the program after her mother passed away and found it very helpful. The program uses journaling and is modeled after the New Day Program from the Archdiocese.

The council welcomed Eileen who was a Eucharistic minister and cooked for Columbus House. All introduced themselves to Eileen. This was the second time in 59 years that she attended a council meeting.

Closing prayer by Father at 12:39 pm

Our Next Meeting is April 27th, 2025, **4 PM. Note time change due to scheduling conflicts.**