

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CHURCH

PARISH PASTORAL AND FINANCE COUNCILS

December 7, 2022

MEETING REPORT

I. Roll Call

In Attendance: Monsignor Gentili, Deacon Brady, Tom Rakszawski, Dick Clark, Tim Conniff, Michele Savage, Don Kraft, Paul Crovo, Ray Kalouche, Matt Gavinelli, Dominique Galloway, Barbara Kieffer, Juan Navia, Lisa Martinez, Will Conway, Bob Weikel, Lisa Kopertowski, Ed Zupanac, Tony Martin, Bob Silberg, David Serrano, Karen Brody, Kim Hirsch, Phil Junker, Laura Campbell, Ray Lokay

Absent: Ellen Roehm, Joel Zazyczny, Ed Zapissek, Leo Craig, Carol Kalouche, Pete Hawley

II. Opening Prayer

Monsignor shared the Gospel from today, Matthew 11, 28-30. Jesus said “my yoke is easy and my burden light”. We all need to share the burden and we are stronger as a team than as individuals. Monsignor asked council members to continue to help him set the vision and goals for the parish.

Monsignor welcomed the new members of the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) and Parish Finance Council (PFC) to their first Joint Meeting of the Parish Councils. He asked everyone to pray for their loved ones and for the founders of our parish. Everyone prayed the Hail Mary.

III. Approval of June 1, 2022 Meeting Report

Council members approved the report and Teresa will post on the website.

IV. Evangelization Initiative – Deacon Brady and Don Kraft

Don Kraft shared his handout “Focusing Our Efforts”. The recent Disciple Maker Index (DMI) Survey, the Synod on Synodality and our own Parish Strategic Plan and Evangelization initiatives have left us with a large group of initiatives that needed to be consolidated and integrated with the parish mission and vision statement. The Archdiocese of Philadelphia (AOP) has required us to put together an action plan for the next three years.

The first recommendation is to focus on our parish mission – “being a vibrant, welcoming parish family, dedicated to growing disciples and making church matter”. This document will also help Monsignor, the staff, parish councils and ministry leaders to respond to the many requests they receive from the AOP and more. By

focusing our efforts, OLG can demonstrate that it is already responding to these additional requests.

The common requirements are dialogue with/among parishioners, evangelization, adult faith formation, disciple-making skills and vibrant ministries. Each parish ministry should ask themselves – “can I do more to evangelize?”.

The parish priority for the next few years is to be more intentional about growing disciples. This document can be used as a “roadmap” on how the parish can take these next steps.

Deacon discussed how everything we do as a parish (CYO, Cookies with Santa, Knights of Columbus, social events, bible studies, Sacraments, etc.) is about evangelization. It is everyone’s job to evangelize, not just those on the Evangelization Committee.

The most recent DMI was completed in early 2022. In 2018, approximately 400 people completed the survey. In 2022, we had 593 completed surveys. Of the respondents to this most recent survey, over 80 percent believe in the Real Presence of the Eucharist, 88 percent believe that scripture is the Word of God and more than 90 percent would recommend OLG to others. One challenge is that many don’t feel they are equipped to share their faith with others and evangelize. Deacon commented that many believe they need “to stand on a soap box” to evangelize. He suggests being able to answer the following question. “Why do you believe in Jesus and why do you go to Church?”

In the DMI, 87 percent of respondents say that OLG is welcoming and 89 percent would recommend Monsignor. They also very much enjoy the preaching at Mass and the music.

Council members discussed the DMI results and the Focusing Our Efforts handout. Deacon, Don and Monsignor will continue to formulate the parish plan for Evangelization.

UPDATE - In February 2023, the DMI Plan and Amended Strategic Plan 2023-2027 was finalized. It was presented and approved by both parish councils.

V. Next Joint Meeting PFC and PPC
June 7, 2023

VI. Closing Prayer
Today is the memorial of Pearl Harbor. Let’s remember our loved ones who have passed and all those who have served our country. Let’s also pray for our parish mission. Everyone prayed the Hail Mary.