

**OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CHURCH  
PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**

**Minutes, September 20, 2023 – Parish Rectory**

I. ROLL CALL

Monsignor Gentili, Matt Gavinelli, Kimberly Hirsch, Tony Martin, Bob Silberg, Dominique Galloway, Carol Kalouche, Paul Crovo, Don Kraft, Juan Navia, Leo Craig, Lisa Martinez, Ray Lokay,

Excused: Lisa Kopertowski, David Serrano, Karen Brody, Deacon Brady, Ed Zupanc

Recording Secretary: Teresa Fischer

II. OPENING PRAYER

Monsignor read today's Gospel from Luke 7, 31-35. *Jesus said to the crowds: "To what shall I compare the people of this generation? What are they like?"*

We continue to reach out to our community with opportunities at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish (OLG). This can be a challenge and Monsignor compared it to mothers who do so much for their families but occasionally say, "but this is the thanks I get?". The point is that our parish is similar to Jesus in that we provide so much to our parishioners and community but often feel frustrated. Monsignor asked council members to offer their reflection on the reading. Everyone prayed a Hail Mary.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Matt Gavinelli asked for a motion to approve the April 26, 2023, minutes. Ray Lokay motioned and Juan Navia seconded the motion. The members of the committee unanimously approved the minutes. Teresa will post on the website.

IV. HEALTH AND WELLNESS MINISTRY UPDATE

The parish Health and Wellness Ministry is proposing to change its name to the Love in Deed Service Ministry to more accurately reflect what they do. This ministry was started by a former parishioner/doctor. The ministry initially provided blood pressure checks to parishioners and eventually expanded to supporting food banks, hosting blood drives and much more. Members of the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) support the name change and appreciate the work they do to serve the poor and needy.

V. DIRECTOR OF ADULT FAITH FORMATION- NEW HIRE – Don Kraft

Monsignor is pleased to announce that OLG has hired Dr. Nina M. Corona in the newly created position of Director of Adult Faith Formation. The main driver for this new position is that our parishioners indicated that they wanted more adult faith

activities in the recent parish survey. Nina is excited for this opportunity and is already hosting weekly vespers and various adult faith formation events.

**VI. CELEBRATING GROWTH MINISTRY WEEKENDS**

The June 2023 Ministry Fair netted 67 sign ups over all the ministries. This is the first time a ministry fair was in the social hall. The next fair was planned for September, but it has since been postponed until the spring. Going forward, ministry fairs will be held twice a year.

**VII. EVANGELIZATION INITIATIVES**

Don provided an update on the evangelization project tracker. As parish leaders, Don would like PPC members to understand the tracker, support the initiatives and provide feedback.

One of these initiatives includes specifically targeting our PREP families and providing opportunities for them to attend church as a family. Karen Brody has jumped in by providing grade-level Masses one Sunday each month where children participate in Mass and enjoy refreshments after Mass. In early October we will host the first of a series of Town Hall Meetings to address topics that are important to Catholics.

The upcoming Ministry Leader Workshop is Saturday, October 14. The main goal is to have our ministry leaders learn more about evangelizing to their ministry team members.

**VIII. MARRIAGE PREP – Monsignor/Teresa**

Many parishes, including OLG, will continue to use online marriage preparation classes, such as the one offered by Ascension Press, as an option for couples. Presently, we do not have our own marriage preparation team, i.e., Pre-Cana. We will continue to explore this as an option and to work with Ascension Press.

**IX. OLG IMAGE VISIT**

The Missionary Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe will be visiting our parish October 14 through November 5, 2023. This digital copy was commissioned and blessed by the Bishop of Mexico City. The image will be visiting the Bucks County Pro Life Team on October 13 and then installed at OLG on October 14 during the Vigil Mass. Monsignor thanked Kim and her team for preparing for this visit and providing this wonderful opportunity for our parishioners.

**X. ARCHDIOCESAN EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS – OUR LADY OF CZESTOCHOVA**

The Eucharistic Congress is on September 30, 2023. The in-person conference is sold out, but you can still purchase tickets to attend virtually. Monsignor encouraged all members who are not attending in person to attend virtually.

XI. FINANCE COUNCIL UPDATE

The Parish Finance Council (PFC) has raised the weekly collection goal from \$32K to \$33K. This better reflects what the parish needs to meet expenses.

XII. OTHER COMMITTEE UPDATES NEW BUSINESS

The Hispanic Ministry is hosting a special event where a group of runners will be bringing a flame/torch and images of Our Lady of Guadalupe and Saint Juan Diego to our parish. The group will meet in the parking lot and process into the Church on Friday followed by Mass celebrated in Spanish. The images/flame/runners will be leaving OLG on Saturday morning.

The parish carnival was a big success this year. The committee went from losing money last year to grossing \$3,800 this year. Thank you to all the parish leaders, volunteers and members who helped make this event a success.

XIII. NEXT MEETINGS

Pastoral Council Meeting, November 8, 2023

Combined Meeting of the Parish Councils, December 6, 2023

XIV. CLOSING PRAYER

Monsignor asked all attendees to gather their intentions and petitions. Everyone prayed an Our Father.