

Parish Council Meeting, Wednesday, 1/24/24

Attendees: Roland Labana (Chair), Kelly Brooks (Vice Chair), Msgr. Lloyd Torgerson, Fr. Tom Park, Felipe Sanchez, Kevin McCardle, Maria Lingbanan, Jennie DiPaolo, Katie Harding, Mark Yee, Christine Gerety, Mugs Cahill, James, Pena, Brianna Rodrigues, Kevin Nazal, Joanne Dietch, Peter Heller, Meredith McCarthy (guest), Karen Krishfield (guest)

Agenda

6:15 - Gathering/Food

6:30pm - 8:30 pm

1. Announcements/Actions (Roland/Kelly)
2. Green Team update (Meredith)
Habitat for Humanity announcement (Karen)
3. School Update (Kevin)
4. Synod discussion (Msgr)
5. Admin/Dev update (Felipe/Merrick)
6. Ministry updates / Open discussion (Ministry reps)
7. Action items (Roland)
8. Closing Prayer

Next events/meetings

- **Diocese of Los Angeles finance report presentation** - Jan 30, 7pm, Grand Pavilion. All Parish Council members are invited to attend this update from the diocese. Please let Roland know if you would like to attend.
- **Parish Mission Retreat staff** - Feb 20, 8am-2pm, St. Monica. All Parish Council members are invited to attend the retreat with Julianne Stanz and St. Monica staff. Retreat, Mass, Lunch. Please let Roland know if you would like to attend.
- **Parish Council Orientation** - Jan 31, ZOOM. Mandatory orientation for new council members. Existing members are welcome to attend for a refresher and to offer their wisdom.
- **Parish Council hosts Stations of the Cross and Fish Fry** - Mar 1, 6:30pm. Please plan to attend and offer a reflection on a station of the cross to the community in attendance. Stations will be assigned/chosen prior to the date. Please let Roland know if you cannot make this.
- **Next Parish Council meeting** - Apr 17, 6:15pm. All members please plan to attend.

Action Items

- Add your items to the sheet shared by Meredith for Parish activities that support Laudato Si. - **All, Feb 2**
- Collect updated contact information from all members. **Katie, Feb 15.**
- Need two council members to write their introduction for posting on the website (send to Roland and Kelly). **All, Feb 15**
- Send a list of ministries still needing profiles. **Merrick, Feb 1**
- Website soft launch for feedback. **Merrick, Feb 26**
- Council members personally invite more Hospitality Ministers for the following Masses (need about 5 more per each Mass). Please send names to Roland and Kelly by **Feb 15**. Sunday Masses - 9:30am, 11:30am and 5:30pm.
- **Synod discussion related items:** (Roland and Kelly to action these and pull in other members). Updates will be provided at the next meeting.
 - We should develop a process to gain more input and feedback from all of our ministries. i.e., Prompts for each ministry to respond to and filter up feedback. Merrick provided some examples.
 - Merrick will provide the readouts captured from each ministry during the Marketing / Communications summit as a starting point to review inputs.
 - A Ministry Summit will be planned for early June.
 - Council members should visit ministries during meetings to kick off the listening process when it's developed.
 - Need to develop a method to provide a closed feedback loop to those who provide feedback.
 - Sign up for Coffee with Council [here](#) (Pretty Please!!). - **All**

Announcements (Roland/Kelly)

- Mark Yee will be relocating and hence stepping down from the Parish Council. Thank you, Mark, for all you have done on the council and beyond for our community! You will be truly missed and we wish you all the best. Delis will identify a replacement for the Community Life ministry representative on the council.
- We want to ensure we have the latest contact information for all Parish Council members. Katie will collect the information from everyone and compile it.
- Badges have been ordered for new council members.

Green Team Update (Meredith)

- Presentation (see attached) and discussion.
- St. Monica parish is striving to implement all aspects of [Laudato Si](https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html). https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html
- All community members are encouraged to add to the Parish's plan by completing this [form](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdclv_JjGH-vc3tHUBtOKOnLmwb9DIt6wtkgtGBYBN3NC13ew/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0) by Feb 2. https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdclv_JjGH-vc3tHUBtOKOnLmwb9DIt6wtkgtGBYBN3NC13ew/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0
- After gathering input by 2/2, a draft plan will be distributed. When final, this will be uploaded to the national collection of parish plans.
- St. Monica will be supporting the diocese booth at RE Congress.

Habitat for Humanity (Karen)

- This Saturday at 6pm at St. Monica- publicize and consider attending the fundraiser. Fun game night! The funds allow our parish to participate in build dates for homes.

School Update (Kevin)

- Catholic Schools week is next week. Students will be thanking public servants such as police, fire, health care workers, etc. with visits.
- SMASH is May 11. Honoree is Fr. Bob Dowd (Heart and Hands). Attend and show your support for SMPREP school!
- Admission season is happening. Upper School family interviews are this weekend (1/27). Several Lower School grades are already at capacity!
- US Girl's Soccer team is 16-0 and crushing all opponents! :)
- Rebuild from the flood is continuing but the completion date is unknown. Insurance will cover parts and other parts such as upgrading plumbing (required) will not be covered.

Synod Discussion (All)

- Council members reviewed Synod reports and other articles ahead of time and held a lively discussion. Students will speak at Masses.
- Many aspects of how we can listen better and more as a parish were discussed.
- We need to encourage open input and feedback better than we are.
- We need to develop a closed feedback loop to let parishioners know how we've heard them and if we've taken any actions.

- Actions related to this discussion are captured in the action item section.

Administrator's Update (Felipe)

- Christmas Concert with Jonn Angotti was very well attended and it was live streamed. Feedback was that the food truck that was provided during the break between Mass and the concert was great and we should consider doing more of this. A special thanks to all those that helped with all the Masses and planning - a lot of effort went into this.
- Los Posados - about 15% of attendees were from St. Monica with most coming from our partner parishes. How can we increase our engagement in this?
- Lent programs are being planned. Book, small groups, Parish Mission with Julianne Stanz, etc.

Development Update (Merrick)

- Between Thanksgiving, Adopt a Family, Christmas and Africa appeal, we were about 19% above budgeted collections. Thank you to all those who helped and contributed!
- Together In Mission: we were 102% of the expectation. 2024 will see a 21% decrease in the amount expected by the diocese for our parish. Bishop Elshoff will be speaking to students this year during this drive.
- Called to Renew: Raised slightly over the goal with about 70% actually already paid. This is great news.
- New website will soft launch on Feb 26. Ministries will have an opportunity to review prior to the launch in March.

Liturgical Update (Merrick)

- Lent: Daily Masses Mon - Fri at 6pm will be held. This is during Lent only!
- Fridays in Lent are extra special with the following schedule:
 - 3pm: Divine Mercy
 - 4pm: Adoration
 - 5pm - 8pm: Fish Fry
 - 6pm: Mass
 - 7pm: Stations of the Cross
- Parish Mission this with Julianne Stan

Ministry Updates/Open discussion:

- Navigators: Kick off was this past Sunday and was a huge success. This ministry provides an on ramp for anyone who wants to learn how to engage with the parish in any ministry based on their interests and talents. Over 30 people have signed up for the interview process!
- Men's Cornerstone: Retreat is Feb 9/10. Currently there are close to 40 signups. Bishop Elshoff will give the talk on Reconciliation.
- Women's Cornerstone: During the marketing of the Men's retreat over the past weeks, there is excitement for the Women's retreat to return in 2025 and quite a few women have been asking for this.
- Hospitality. To bring back the Welcome Table, we need about five more Hospitality Ministers for each of the following Masses. The plan is for council members to help personally invite new ministers from parishioners who regularly attend these Masses. Send names to Roland and/or Dan Schwala.
 - Sunday 9:30am
 - Sunday 11:30am
 - Sunday 5:30pm