PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL - PPC
Minutes of Meeting Held on:
November 13, 2023

Members present:
Father Manuel de Jesús Rodríguez
Father José Colón
Father José Gustavo Díaz
Father Luis Eduardo Garces
Deacon Daniel Díaz Enrique
Lugo
Madre Clara
Miguel Calle
Denis Rivera Julia
Morales Jackie
Cubi Diógenes
Canela Salvador
Reyes

Members absent with formal excuse:
Bertha Calle y Luis Pastuizaca

Members absent without formal excuse:
N/A

Indication of starting time:
6:15pm - 8:35pm

Agenda Items (copy of agenda in full)
See Attached
1. **Minutes Translation** - The father asks that the minutes be translated into English, because he will be sharing it in the different chats of the parish.

2. **ACA** - For the Appeal, $60,000 has already been raised, but we are not yet close to what we should have, the goal is $200,000. We need to continue promoting so that more families commit and help us. The groups are working, doing their pro-ACA fund activities. Jennifer Pérez, who is in charge of processing the Appeal transactions, is doing a very excellent job. For any concerns, call the Rector's Office.

3. **Incident in the Auditorium** - Mother Clara said that she stayed at 10:30am mass in the auditorium and saw that a man entered the girls' bathroom and closed the door and no minister of hospitality was attentive to this situation. Father Manuel said that that day there had been an incident in the men's bathroom for which they had to close to clean and disinfect, which is why everyone was using the women's bathroom. Nelson, in charge of Hospitality, will be spoken to so that those who serve in the auditorium are more attentive.

4. **Church Bathroom** - The Church bathroom is only made available to the elderly or disabled, others are invited to go to the auditorium. Hospitality has the key to the Church bathroom.

5. **New Chairs** - Father Manuel and Enrique shared some photos of possible chairs for the auditorium and other rooms.

6. **Next Year Raffle 2024** - Father Manuel asked for opinions about continuing with the car raffle or raffling off an amount of cash. The majority of the Council suggested that a cash amount would be more attractive to parishioners. The possibility of the first prize being $50,000, the second prize $5,000, the third prize $3,000, and the fourth and fifth prize $1,000 was determined. Ticket books would be 10 per package.

7. **Workshop to Buy Houses** - Luz Muy, a real estate agent and parishioner Viel, will be invited to give a workshop on how to buy a house, so whoever wins the biggest prize can give the initial deposit for the purchase of their house.

8. **Evaluation of Past Activities:**
   - The activity carried out for All Saints’ Day was a great blessing and participation.
   - The Ecuadorian Festival went very well, the unity and brotherhood was seen in them and it was well received by the parishioners when they left the Masses.

9. **Food Pantry and Soup Kitchen**
   This week the Soup Kitchen has fed more than 420 people and the Food Pantry has distributed food baskets to more than 1,470 people. Also, through the Extraordinary Ministers, food is being brought to 7 sick people.

10. **Coat Drive** – Bertha Calle presented the initiative to collect coats to distribute to those in need now in Winter.
11. **Childhood Missionary** - Father Gustavo Diaz said that the Missionary Childhood program has been a little slow. More children are expected to arrive. Since it is not something to receive a sacrament, parents do not see it as something important. The people who bring the children are candidates, there are only 7 or 8 children. It is planned to invite the altar servers to give them training.

12. **Bible and Apologetic Biblical Course.**
Father Garces, is very happy with the number of adults who are coming, there are about 60 adults every Thursday and around 20 children and several volunteers.

13. **Change of Director of Faith Formation** - Lourdes Aguilar, until now has been the Director of the Catechism, in addition to being Director, she also works in an agency in the city. When she assumed this responsibility she had an average of 20 cases. But now they have doubled. For this reason she resigns her position from December 1st, but she will continue to serve as a catechist and also in charge of the Liturgy. The new director of faith formation will be Brother Kilvio Rubiera, who has a lot of experience in Evangelization and is also a candidate for the diaconate.

14. **English Classes by Catholic Charities** - It was expressed that the English classes are very good, they always come to supervise the classes and ask them questions in English. Student number one is Father Colon. Monday and Wednesday nights there are 20 students and Tuesday and Friday mornings there are 18 students. On Sunday there is another group at 9 in the morning, the program lasts 3 years. To enter the program they have to take an exam, Father Manuel makes the appointment.

15. **Plaza del Sol and Elmhurst Hospital** They are coming to the Parish to apply the Covid and Flu vaccine.

16. **Letter from the Bishop** - Everyone was asked to read the bishop's letter published in our weekly bulletin and share it in their groups and social networks.

17. **Vocations Group** - Due to the great need for priestly and religious vocations, Father Manuel and Mother Clara will be meeting with a group of boys on the first Friday of December at 7pm. If you know of someone who has a vocation, please tell Father Manuel or Mother Clara. Inform parish announcements and prayer groups about priestly vocations.

18. **On Thanksgiving Day** We will have 4 Masses: 6am, 8am, 10am and 12pm.

19. **Tree Lighting** It will be on December 6, there will be a children's choir and many characters and surprises.

20. **Advent Mission** - The Advent Mission begins on Monday, December 4. Father Pedro Sánchez will be the guest priest and the motto of the Mission is: MARI_A FIRST SAGRARIUM OF JESU_S. We will also have the Advent Mission in English with the same theme.

21. **Aguinaldo Mass** They begin on December 16 and the groups participating in each Mass and sharing in the auditorium have already been assigned (see calendar)

22. **Communion under both species** - It will begin to be distributed on Thursdays, work is being done on this. So that everything goes well. For the glory of God.

Next meeting of the Pastoral Council will be:
January 26, 2024 at 6pm, Saint Ana Room.
Indication of time of conclusion

8:35pm

Indication of Approval of Minutes by the PPC

The absolute majority of the Members of the PPC approved these minutes

Signatures of Secretary, Coordinator and Pastor

Julia Morales, Rick Lugo & Rev. Manuel de Jesús Rodríguez