



**St. Michael the Archangel Roman Catholic Church  
Parish Council Meeting  
824 Pershing Drive, Silver Spring, MD  
May 3, 2021  
7:00 p.m.**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**St. Michael's Mission:**

Guided by the Holy Spirit, St. Michael the Archangel Church brings the parish and the community closer to the Lord through worship, love and stewardship so that all may be one in Christ.

**St. Michael's Vision:**

A dynamic community of faith, celebrating our growing diversity as a beacon of the new evangelization.

PRESENT: Rev. Msgr. Eddie Tolentino, Rev. Jose Rodriguez, Deacon Curtis Rodney, Lisa Taylor, Eliamelisa Gonzalez, Esnath Mtonga, Cristina Sian, Cynthia Lewis, Helder Hernandez, Marisela Tobar, Anna Smith, Edwin Mendez.

- I. Call to Order** 7:05 p.m. **Lisa Taylor**
- II. Opening Prayer/Reflection** **Msgr. Tolentino**
- III. Approval of the April Minutes** **Lisa Taylor**  
First: Lisa  
Seconded: Edwin
- IV. Approval of Agenda** **Lisa Taylor**  
First: Lisa  
Seconded: Eliamelisa
- V. Finance Council Report** **John Webster**  
Lisa shared the document that John Webster sent. John Webster was absent.  
March total income \$87,148.00  
March total expenses \$77,679.00  
March net income \$9,469.00
- a. Grant Opportunity:** <https://lbcharitablefoundation.org/>  
We were approved for a fifty thousand dollars grant to provide support for Care for God's creation project. We thank Darrell Smith and the Green Committee for this.

## **VI. Hispanic Committee Report**

**Helder Hernandez**

Members of the Hispanic Committee joined a webinar on Caring for God's creation for the month of April.

## **VII. 7 Principles Service**

**Lisa Taylor**

### **a. Life and Dignity of the Human Person (Lisa Taylor)**

Lisa asked the members that we think about how can we support our parishioners when they are in need. How to help with crisis of evictions.

### **b. Call to Family, Community and Participation (Edwin Mendez)**

None

### **c. Rights and Responsibilities (Marisela Tobar)**

None

### **d. Option for the Poor and Vulnerable (Anna Smith)**

#### **1. Reaching out Parishioners in Need**

Lisa will meet with Anna Smith to talk about this.

Anna reminded everyone as well about the Native Plants give away. May 9 from 2pm to 6pm at the parking lot of the Parish Center.

### **e. Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers (John Webster)**

None

### **f. Solidarity (Cristina Sian)**

Sharefood Network – a Catholic Charities representative would like to donate food packages to the parish. Lisa will be meeting with Christina sometime this week to follow up on this. They will inform PC on updates.

### **Asian Pacific islander heritage month**

Each week we will have an article on the history and highlights about Asian Americans and pacific islanders. Please take a moment to read them.

There will also be an Anti-Asian racism panel discussions on May 20<sup>th</sup>  
Tony Calaro, Christina, Pan Hu are the guests for this webinar.  
Facilitator: Victor Henriquez

Marian pilgrimage celebration happened on May 1 at St. Michael's. Monsignor Tolentino was the main celebrant and homilist. This was a successful event. Many Asian Americans and pacific islanders joined both in person and online.

### **g. Care for God's Creation (Vacant)**

#### **1. St. Michael's Green Team Maryland Native Plant Giveaway, (May 8, 2 pm - 6 pm)**

Please sign-up to get your plants.

On a separate note - We need to have a meeting for each Vitality for updates and to check on how are we doing. Parish Council members will send email to Cindy to schedule meetings on Monsignor's calendar. We also need to look at the ministry list to make sure names, emails and phone numbers are correct.

Cynthia Lewis will select the option for poor and vulnerable for the Catholic Social Teaching principle.

Lisa asks Cynthia to email her to let her know the vitality.

## **VIII. Administrative Matters**

**Lisa Taylor**

- a. Articles for the Parish Times** - For the month of may, we need to do an article to talk about the Sodality events & one about Asian Marian Pilgrimage, and Confirmation.
- b. Calling Campaign, Status & Sharing Results** – Thank you to all the members for making the phone calls to parishioners.
- c. Bookcase in the Vestibule for Religious Materials** – Mary Ann Robertson presented the idea to be brought to the parish council to see if we can have a bookshelf for religious materials in the vestibule of the church. Esnath mentions that we need to be careful with pandemic and brochure materials. Christina commented that she can bring materials if approved. Lisa asks: What about our Care for God's creation with having less paper or booklets to take care of the environment? Monsignor asks: Do people still read materials or they do it online? Cynthia: Who will maintain the bookshelf? Also, vestibule area is not so big.
- d. Mother's Day Action – Flower Dissemination** –Have Parish Council members to distribute – Members do not feel comfortable with coming to distribute flowers. All members have issues or are not available. Knights are planning on giving carnations. Monsignor will contact them to see how will it be distribute it. Monsignor asks parish council members if they have ideas about flower distribution to send to him by Wednesday, May 5.
- e. Recruitment for Parish Council 2021-2022** – Lisa asks PC members to bring ideas about new members to join the Parish Council. We need to seriously think about this on how to recruit and get new members for the year 2021-2022.
- f. Sodality Announcements:** Big thank you for all the support received for the virtual Sodality Communion Brunch. Event was a success. Cynthia reminds that Sodality will have the three week series "On fire with Jesus" and asks if PC members can do outreach to Young Adults to invite them – Fr. Sass will be the speaker. There will be a Sodality Retreat on May 15 from 8am to 10am. All PC members are invited to attend.

Deacon Curtis Rodney will present a report on the ministries that he have met with for June's meeting.

### **g. Upcoming Meeting Schedule**

#### **1. June 7, 2021**

**IX. Pending Business**

**Lisa Taylor/Parish Council**

Monsignor Tolentino: An idea was brought to him about thanking the Catechists as it is always done every year. This year, since we cannot still go to a restaurant, the idea was brought to give a gift card to catechists but for two different restaurants – one gift card to a restaurant for the catechists in the Spanish program and another one for the catechists in the English program. This bothered monsignor because our mission and vision of the parish is to be one and we have always have this event of gratitude together. Monsignor asks PC members if we know a better and appropriate way how to handle this as this idea since two separate gifts does not align with our parish mission and vision of unity. The following ideas were given from parish council members:

- Have monsignor make a decision on what he sees best
- Give catechists a gift from the cathedral or basilica with a handwritten note from monsignor
- Have a get together outside of church with food catered

On another note: Cynthia asks if we can share Mary Ann’s video that was presented at the communion brunch, and share it in an email to the parish for Mother’s Day Weekend.

**X. New Business**

**Lisa Taylor**

Father Jose would like to thank monsignor for signing an agreement with the Augustine institute so that our parish can have access to the platform: Formed. Formed is a platform that has faith formation videos, materials, series, movies, books, and much more. We need to publish this in all our platforms so all parishioners know.

Monsignor thanks Fr. Jose for the presentation series he is giving to the Hispanic Community on Catholic Social Teaching and asks if we can translate the power point presentations so they can be shared with the other parish communities.

**XI. Closing Prayer**

**Father Jose**

**Next Meeting: June 7, 2021**

**REMINDER** –Parish Council members assigned to serve as liaison officers to Councils, Committees and Ministries are responsible for serving as ministry coordinators and for keeping the Parish Council informed of ministry activities and new information or challenges of which the Council should be aware through monthly reports submitted no later than one week in advance of a Council meeting.