

Newman Hall - Holy Spirit Church
Parish Pastoral Council
Meeting Minutes
November 17, 2022, 7:30 pm – 9:10 pm

Present: Bob Gannon, Gary Schmoranc, Homer Teng, Ivan Tou, CSP, Linda Safarik-Tong, Lorina Tornai, Marie Retherford, Ned Niccolls, and Riley Croghan

Notetaker: Homer Teng

7:30 – 7:35 **Opening Prayer** – Homer

7:35 – 7:45 **Adopt October Minutes**

- The Council unanimously adopted the October minutes that had been sent out weeks before the meeting.
- Homer asked why the meeting minutes of the current council have not been posted on Newman’s website, and why the group picture of previous council members was still there.
- Homer also wondered what happened to the individual portraits that council members were asked to send to the parish. Linda said the portraits were posted on the monitor in the lobby of the church.
- Fr. Ivan said he would give council members ability to post minutes on the website.

7:45 – 8:00 **Schedule of Upcoming Meetings**

- Tuesday, December 13 at 7:30 PM in person.
- Tuesday, January 3, at 7:30 PM in-person with a Zoom option.
- Meetings in February and onwards: To be determined

8:00 – 8:15 **Volunteer Appreciation Lessons Learned**

- Reflecting on the volunteer appreciation event that took place on October 15, Linda mentioned the following suggestions that Homer had shared with her in an e-mail:

- *More targeted and earlier publicity:* In addition to just sending out e-mails to ministry leaders, the council could follow up with phone calls to remind them about the event. The council needs to do these things at least 3 weeks in advance.
- *RSVP:* It is essential that the council set up an RSVP system, so that it knows how much food and refreshments to purchase. A lot of food was left over that evening.
- *Invite collaboration:* The council should invite input from other ministry leaders to plan an event. By doing so, ministry leaders will have a stake in the event and thereby be able more willing to encourage their ministry members to join.
- *Set time limit for games:* To ensure maximum participation in a game, the council should give oral instructions and formally set a time limit for everyone to play it.

8:15– 8:25 **Advent Wreath Making and Habitat for Newmanity**

- *Advent Wreath Making:* On the First Sunday of Advent, November 27, after 10 AM Mass, the council will organize a wreath making activity. Linda has put up a sign advertising it at the lobby.
- *Habitat for Newmanity:* On Saturday, November 19, 9-11 AM, all parishioners are invited to join parishioner Alan Roselius to evacuate all the dirt in the patio to prepare it for water sealing. Other tasks to be done include window cleaning and landscaping. Volunteers need to bring their own shovels, wheelbarrows, and other cleaning tools.

8:25 – 8:55 **Pastor’s Update**

- Fr. Ivan commented on the “Summary”, “Key Updates”, “Culture of Encounter” and “Culture of Service” portions of his Pastor’s Update dated November 10, which he had sent to the council prior to the meeting.
- Fr. Ivan shared the current status the Mission Alignment Process. The bishop is very supportive of the Paulists serving at Newman.
- To make Newman’s worship space more aesthetically pleasing to some people, Fr. Ivan intends to place a white linen on the altar.
- Marie apologized for the tone and wording of an e-mail message that she had sent in

response to Riley's explanation about a student's critique of the All-Saints Day liturgy.

- Bob spoke about the need to create opportunities for respectful dialogue between student parishioners and long-time members of the parish.
- Lorina spoke about supporting Fr. Ivan to make two lasting infrastructure improvements to Newman Hall before his tenure ends in 2 years: (1) installing solar panels, and (2) revamping the heating and electrical systems of the building.
- Fr. Ivan said that Anna, the business manager of the parish, has started to get quotes for solar panels. The roof of Newman Hall will need to be replaced before installation could begin.
- Anna will also be getting bids for the repair of the water pumps for the heating system, and for a new boiler.

8:55 – 9:10 **Future Community Event Planning**

- The Council decides to organize a Christmas Caroling activity for December that will be its community-building event for the month. The idea is to gather a group of interested Newman parishioners to join a caroling activity that a music group from the Elwood neighborhood will be doing during holidays. After the caroling, the participants will come back to Newman Hall for refreshments and snacks.
- Fr. Ivan will reach out to a parishioner named Claudia, who belongs to the Elmwood music group, to find out the date that the group will be doing the caroling. Ideally, the council would like to have the event between December 5 and 9, before finals week at UC Berkeley.

9:10 **Closing Prayer – Homer**