

Saint Matthew Ecumenical Catholic Church  
1111 West Town and Country Road, Unit 14  
Orange, CA 92868

## Parish Council Minutes

April 9, 2019  
Tuesday 6:30 pm

### **Attendance:**

Victoria Greene (Moderator), Claudia Kilby (Co-moderator), Bill Singleton, Lou Clancy, Brett Fallavollita, Mike Mitchell, Steve Ross, Tony Russo, Victoria Anderson

### **Non-Council Members in attendance:**

Bp. Peter Hickman, Fr. Bala Madan, Mo. Martha Rogers, Mo. Jetty Van De Berghe, Kathryn Tuma, Mo. Diane Smith

### **Call to order by Victoria Greene at 6:41 pm**

**Prayer** offered by Mike including lighting a candle to recognize the presence of Jesus at the meeting.

**Bible reading:** Video devotion on the topic of Christians as a “people of possibilities.”

**Minutes: Motion by Lou with a second from Tony/Bill to approve the March minutes. Vote for approval was unanimous.**

### **Financial Report -Kathryn and Victoria G.- Please see report**

March continues a downward trend with income of \$26,580 and expenses of \$26,510. March is a five Sunday month. Kathryn used part of the reserve savings (\$57,134) to cover expenses for the month.

## **Ministry Reports**

### **Community Life – Victoria Greene**

- Plans for the Beach Blanket Auction on June 22<sup>nd</sup> continues. Ministry will meet next week with a report to follow.

### **Liturgy Ministry – Steve**

- Please read the written report.
- Oil has been ordered and ministry is researching source for brass candleholder.
- Urn for Palm Sunday purchased with donation from Doris Hand.
- Clergy has the scheduling of Holy Week organized and volunteers are needed to make changes to the environment.

### **Stewardship Ministry – Mike**

- Please read the detailed report submitted.
- Discussion of OFFERUP Initiative covering details of transactions and administration duties.
- Ministry Fair update schedule for June 9<sup>th</sup>. Parish Council Liaisons are expected to make short presentations representing the mission of the individual ministries between masses.
- Fall Financial Campaign team asking for suggestions.

### **Bereavement Ministry - Tony**

- Please read the full report.
- Mo. Diane continues to offer bereavement services on 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday at 12:00 in the classroom. Mo. Diane reported there is a need to include not only grief for a loss but also grief for illness of family and friends.

### **Building Ministry – Lou**

- Ministry team will meet next Sunday. Report to follow next month.
- Please report any problems to Lou, or any council member. Reminder that the ministry will speak with Jason for help if appropriate. Please do not report problems to Jason directly.

### **Public Relations Ministry – Mike and Steve**

- Tri-fold Brochures update: It is the proofing stage and the next meeting of the ministry is scheduled for next Monday. Report to follow next month.

### Social Justice and Outreach Ministry – Claudia

- Claudia was absent from ministry meeting. Report to follow next month or via email.

### Adult Education – Bill

- Please read the complete report.
- Series on Catholic Mysticism concluded last Sunday with rave reviews from parishioners attending.
- Thanks to Dr. Eleanor Zatyko, Dr. Bill Singleton, Dr. Tony Battaglia, Dr. Merry Battaglia, Fr. Ron, and special guest Laura Caraccio.

### Men’s Group- Brett

- Service project by our men at Mercy House on March 23rd to organize items in their garage
- Meeting scheduled Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> at Steve’s home.
- Fall Retreat for the Men’s Group is in the planning stage.

### Pastoral Reports

#### Bp. Peter

- Bishop reported his planned schedule: All day on Sundays, Tuesday between 10:30 am and 4:00 pm, and Wednesday from late afternoon through Rosary.
- Schedule for 2 masses a month at the 8:00 am and 10:30 am.
- He continues to contact parishioners from home.

#### Fr. Arturo

- Spanish Clergy hosted a Lenten retreat including Bp. Armando with 13 priests attending. It was a spirit lead and filled meeting bringing the clergy closer together. Topic discussed was the rejection by the Roman Catholic Church. The group pledged to support each other because of their unique circumstance.

#### Mo. Martha and Mo. Jetty

- Please read complete report.
- Butterfly Day on Saturday April 27<sup>th</sup> is a diocese wide event with participation of Sharon (our own butterfly whisperer).
- Wednesday night summer education program is a 12-week program on Thomas Merton (Fr. Louis) a writer on spiritualism, social justice, and pacifism, among other topics.
- The plan for the fall program is on the book of Daniel.

#### Mo. Esther Diane

- Please see the written report.
- Continue work on Liturgy, Bereavement Ministry, the Diocesan Reception and Concerns Committee, and presiding at the Eucharist on Sundays as scheduled.

### Old Business

1. Email and printed letterhead has not report this month.
2. Revision of Bylaws/Constitution
 

Discussed the proposed amendments to the Bylaws of the Constitution. Council members are encouraged to make suggestions where wording of amendments may seem unclear. This is especially apparent for the Clergy section (V), Pastors (B) where a change has been brought forth regarding the process of naming a Proxy for a pastor if the pastor becomes unable or unavailable to serve the parish. Brett has offered to make suggestions for this proposed amendment with email discussion encouraged. Voting on these issues may be scheduled for next months meeting. Council members are encouraged to engage and discern these issues.
3. New Vision/Mission Project Meeting Dates for Clergy
 

Brett will coordinate with members of the clergy for best time to engage in this listening session.

4. Diocese of California Meeting with parish community May 19th  
Discussion continues on the importance to make a case to the parish community regarding a vote to join the Diocese of California. With the confusion of whether the Constitutional process was followed, we have determined that this required vote was not exercised in the past and we need to have the agreement of a majority of the parish to truly belong to the diocese.  
It is crucial to have Bp Peter to help make a case for this affirmative vote. Mo Martha and Mo Jetty have volunteered to work with Bp Peter on this task.  
Fr Arturo will work with his community to make a case to join the diocese. The plan is to have both communities meet and vote on May 19<sup>th</sup>.
5. Signage: no report at this time.
6. Status Tri-Fold brochure – discussed in the PR Ministry report.

### **New Business**

1. Bulletin Board – tabled for next month's meeting

### **Follow-up comments**

- Council clarified the terms of service for council member as stated in the Constitution because there has been confusion between the general practice and the actual stated process.
- Council is finding it hard to encourage new serving members on the council. Suggested we make a presentation at the Ministry Fair on June 9<sup>th</sup> to identify any parish member with an interest.
- If our membership in the parish continues to shrink, it is possible to reduce the size of the council.
- Brett suggested the Dashboard listening session can bring up this issue to the parish.

Closing Prayer offered by Mike

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm

Closed session to follow

Minutes: Claudia Kilby