
GA PPC MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, 12/9/2025

Attendees

Fr Joe Connelly (Pastor), Pat Ryan (Parish Administrator), Debbie Stadt, Cara Barone, Marymartha Heasley, Sonya Coelho, Steve Sims (Trustee), Mike Braun (Deacon), Matthew Amos, Jonathan Amos, Pat Dolan

Absentee

Lourdes Rivera, Mike Braun (Deacon), Matthew Amos

Agenda

1. JOC Update:

- a. Refugee/St Vincent de Paul...We continue to do Tossed & Sorted and Dave Graebner & other refugees help get it to the refugees at this time. We also collect for St Vincent de Paul every week they come and pickup at GA; former refugees are helping others immigrants in getting clothing etc
 - b. Giving Center...we had 8 people this month with gas cards at Holiday in Woodbury. No cost to the parish. In the giving center, we collect for Brittany's Place, the card ministry, Refugee, Santa shop, and Bags/Food for Open Cupboard.
 - c. We collected 200 coats for refugee, St Vincent & the Capuchins drives. Our care package assembly packets for the homeless before Thanksgiving were donated to GA parishioners and 60 families at Crescent Cove hospice center.
 - d. Loaves & Fishes...we continue to volunteer each month. 8-10 people usually help with serving and helping cooking for over 270-300 people every 2nd Sunday of the month.
 - e. Respect Life/Life Human Dignity...we are doing a baby collections for Options and other prolife organizations in January.
 - f. Prison Ministry: We have 20 Penpal people who write their incarcerated people and we meet each month on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 11am. We
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have added Birthday cards each meeting too along with a speaker. We usually get 12-15 people at our monthly meetings.

- g. Creation Care/Food Garden..John Capecchi mentioned to me that he is working with Pat Ryan and Fr Joe on the garden for next year. All went well this year with John's leadership this summer.
- h. Food with Friends Meals –we will have an event on January 3rd for refugees and other people. We are looking for suggestions for ideas for the future. Food to People helps with providing a meal. We will have an event for Refugees with Bingo in January. we may be working with Our Lady of Guadalupe in St Paul in the future. Father Joe will email Pat Dolan and Vivian Capistrant about us meeting with Luis from Our Lady
- i. Befrienders/Pastoral each month. We are getting 8-10 people at each meeting per month. Our meeting each week with the griefshare video for grief group for seven more weeks through December & into January and for befrienders 8-10 people with Steve Sims helping. Twelve of us meet with befrienders each month in their homes(a total of 30 people are visited by our team. Also, our Caring group.. is the 3rd Thursday by zoom lead by Liz. There is four people in this group. We may have an Alzheimer's caregivers groups in the future. Father Joe will ask the parish council. We are introducing Holiday Hope Support with Bob Brickley helping me with people dealing with the holiday's. We are trying to do the same things with cancer group. We have ongoing groups at Boulder Ponds & Oak Meadows Senior Living.
- j. Also, Boulder Ponds men's bible study is happening every other week and 10 people are in attendance. It will be on the Old Testament prophets and Social Justice. We have 3 GA befrienders at Boulder who want this study. We see over 6 people each week there for communion. New program at Oak Meadows called Hope Meadows & Friendship starts in December with a retreat with Fr Joe on January 24th
- k. Christmas Program this year goes for 4 weeks starting on November 22-23rd ending in middle of December. We are working with Dave & Jill Graebner with the families and it is all gift cards for refugee, emergency funds and Our Lady of Guadalupe families as we work on this new sister parish relationship.

2. Engagement commission:

- a. 19 families attended, 17 moved to the next one on 19th of April, and talked about combining time and talent into one weekend instead of spreading it over October. selected St Michael awardee for January and will continue with angel award twice per year

3. Chesterton Academy

- a. Deacon and Father are in communication with principal Eileen Douglas. Looking for open house dates where families can look at space and location and see what we can offer. planned for Jan 10th which is a Saturday. The board of Chesterton

academy should meet with ppc and finance council to understand what Chesterton academy is, what they can provide, etc. this is planned for jan 13th (next ppc meeting) so instead of ppc meeting they will introduce themselves to us.

- i. Father recognizes card ministry and crafters may have pushback due to space sharing but says space will still be available on weekends. crafters and cards will move back to the original space downstairs. Reminder that the school wing was always intended to be for a school.

4. Capital Campaign Update:

- a. \$219,280 raised this past weekend. 336 total pledges total pledged of 2.209mil. 105% of our goal made.
 - i. Any further pledges will have 80% going to the parish since we are past 100% now. No more phone calls or home visits for support.

5. Our Lady of Guadalupe Partnership:

- a. Waiting until campaign is over to see what can go to Guadalupe. Otherwise no new updates.

6. Other additions:

- a. PPC would like to see notes (before official minutes) published much earlier since she missed the last meeting and didn't see minutes until the morning of.
 - i. Our next meeting on January 13th will be at 4:45pm to accommodate additional time for Chesterton academy & the finance council.

- NEXT MEETING: January 13th, 2025 at 4:45 P.M