

**Mary, Mother of God Parish Pastoral Council**  
**Meeting Minutes, Wednesday, September 27, 2023, 7:00 p.m.**  
**St. Ita Jubilee Hall**

Present: Soledad Andrade, Frank Ativie, Lucy and Maria Cordon, Kokou Dagawa, Eunice Daniels, Mark Franzen, Stephanie Held, Yasha Hookens, Robert Krug, Greg Lindeman, Fr. Alejandro Lopez, Mercedes MacLaughlin, Fr. Romert Morales, Lionel Osaghae, Joyce Ramirez-Knight, Vince Singvongsa, Deacon Paul Spalla, Fr. Bob Sprott, and Friar Jason Warrer.

Not present: Ms. Christine Boyd, Fr. Thomas Fetz, Chris Grant, Heberto Machado, Jr., Michael Magada, James Murphy, Lorena Nava, Eva Niewiadomski, Deacon Juan Ramirez, Susan Silvano, Deacon Ron Stricker, and Diane Trinh.

**Opening Prayer** from Friar Jason Warrer, meeting began at 7:02pm. **Approval of Minutes** from the 06/15/2023 meeting approved through a first motion from Robert Krug, followed by a second motion from Frank Ativie. Abstention from Greg Lindeman.

**Operations** Physical Plant the tuck and point on the chimney has been completed. The next project will be on the South side of the building to fix a roof leak at SI. The windows will be done at the same time since scaffolding will be up at that time. New Emergency Plan The Archdiocese has introduced a plan on how to proceed in case of a tornado, fire, active shooter, etc. A core group from the Parish will attend two sessions - causing the offices to be closed (9/15 and 10/13). Upon completion of the plan, a core group from the parish will be introduced to the plan and will use it in case of an emergency. The plan will be shared internally, but we hope that it can be used for community building. First responders will have a copy of the plan as well. Gift to St. Ita a significant gift was bequeathed to SI; it will go into the building fund.

**Outreach** Catholic Charities is pulling back on their Food Pantry participation and the old school offices at STC. A FP Task Force has been created to decide if the FP should close, become something else, etc. It was decided there is a need; John Ceisel will be the interim manager. A full-time job opening will be placed to hire a manager to coordinate both the SK and FP. As of October 1, only morning hours will be held for the FP.

**St. Gregory's Hall Report** Canterbury House Every Monday from 1PM to 5PM the doors to Canterbury House are open to people living outside for fellowship, coffee, and escape from the heat. Help is always needed! CH has a bible study; read the Gospel of Mark and now reading Hosea; open to anyone every Tuesday evening at 7:30 PM. Martha Hennessy, Dorothy Day's granddaughter led a roundtable discussion on the Eucharistic Revival. She read excerpts from a speech her grandmother gave at the last Eucharistic Congress in Philadelphia in 1975 and then spoke of the importance of seeing Jesus in the host and in our neighbor, especially the poor. A few folks from that meeting have been meeting once per month to continue conversations

around how we can be a Eucharistic community in our parish, our neighborhood and in our efforts to serve the poor. Two groups of Freshman students from DePaul University visited different locations at MMoG in August. They toured the Churches, learned about Solidarity Gardens, were told how to volunteer in our SK and met with our Artist-in-Residence, Sarah Crow, where she spoke of her work. Students from Mt. Carmel High School did a service project this morning at CH. Spoke of how we can care God's creation, toured the gardens and discussed ways we can live our lives that are in tune with caring for our earth and the environment. We then made sandwiches and did outreach to people living outside. Upcoming: Chuck Shanabruch, author of a new biography on St. Ita parishioner, Ed Marciniak, will be giving a talk on October 25th at 6:30 PM at SI in JH. The Edgewater Historical Society and DePaul University are co-sponsoring the event along with SGH. CH will be hosting a roundtable discussion in late October highlighting the work of St. Rita Ministry at MMoG which tends to the need of individuals encountering domestic violence. Scott Moringiello, our scholar in residence is back and living part-time at CH Sunday through Wednesday. Any questions or ideas contact James Murphy at [jamesjmurphy004@gmail.com](mailto:jamesjmurphy004@gmail.com)

Saint Gregory's Hall Catechesis of the Good Sheperd is centered on Catholic dogmas, framed with principles that began in Italy. Focused on Scripture, Liturgy, basics of faith and cultivating in children a sense of the Sacred and contemplation of God and stories on the life of Christ (parables). The upper ages group is full, but registrations are still open for children ages 3 to 6. CGS encompasses 12 different parishes, 1/3 are ours.

**School Report** Ms. Boyd not present at meeting.

**Liturgy and Worship** Funerals - Pat Kenny. New seats on the PPC Three seats have been vacated: Pat Kenny, Peter Jansen, and John Stimler. As a result, two more seats will be open; one for ex-officio from St. Ignatius and a seat for parents with young children. Unanimous vote passed.

**Religious Education and Sacraments** Religious Education Update registrations have closed. 111 children are registered - First year Communion: 24. Second year communion: 29 (and 3 from Confirmation). First year Confirmation: 31. Second year Confirmation: 30.

RCIA/RICA Update RCIA took the summer off. Sunday and Monday groups. 9 students are part of the Monday group. RICA has 3 registered students, 1 for FC and C and 2 for C.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd 70 children are enrolled with 30 families from 12 parishes. A third of the families belong to MMoG.

**Parish Life** KoC Pancake Breakfast (6/25) - funds for ToS. Tastes of Summer (7/23) - **raised \$27,800.62**. Movie Night (7/28). Filipino Picnic @ SGG (7/30). Martini's That Matter (8/13). Knights of Columbus - Officer presentation (8/20). English Bible Study - Book of Hebrews (8/26). Baile del Juguete (8/26). First Day of Religious Education (9/9). First Day of RICA (9/10). Saint Teresa of Avila Course (9/11 - 11/13 M 6-8pm) w/ Fr. Bob Sprott, OFM. Emergency Training

(9/16) - offices closed. Filipinos of SGG Dinner/Dance (9/23). Saint Vincent DePaul Ice Cream Social @ SI JH after 8:30am, 10:30am and 12:30pm Masses (9/24).

**Upcoming** San Lorenzo Ruiz Mass (9/30) @ SGG 4:30pm - reception to follow. Nigerian Independence Day Mass (10/1) @ SI 10:30am - reception to follow. Transitus of Saint Francis (10/3) @ 7pm. Feast of Saint Francis (10/4) - offices closed. Fatih Reading Series with poet/scholar Peter O' Leary @ SGG 7pm (10/4). First Friday Mass (10/6, 11/3 and 12/1) @ SI 7pm. Pet Blessings (10/7 @ 1pm - all 3 sites). Manuscript Illumination with Sarah Crow @ SGG 12pm - 5pm (10/7). Our Lady of Perpetual Help - Mass/Novena (10/11, 11/8 and 12/13) @ SGG 7pm. Emergency Training (10/13) - offices closed. Open House Chicago (10/14 and 10/15) @ 10am to 5pm - all 3 sites. Chili-Cook Off (10/21) @ SI 7pm. Knights of Columbus Blood Drive (10/22) @ SI 9am-2pm. SGH Book Event: Our City and Our Church: The Story of Ed Marciniak, Chicago Catholic Activist Wednesday, October 25, 6:30 PM (10/25) @ SI 6pm. Filipino Committee - Breakfast Fundraiser (10/29) after 8:30 AM and 10:30 AM Masses @ SI. Vigil Mass for All Saints @ SGG 7pm (10/31). All Saints Day (11/1). All Souls Day (11/2). Flu Clinic @ SI 10am to 2pm (11/6). Ordination for Deacon Bede (11/11) @ 10:30am - reception to follow. Movie Night (11/17). Thanksgiving Dinner with the Friars (11/23) Mass @ 10:30am, Dinner at 12pm. Simbang Gabi (12/15 @ SI 7pm and 12/16 @ SGG 6:30pm). Mexican Posadas (12/16) @ SI 7pm. Convivium Marianum Lessons and Carols (12/17) @ SGG 7pm.

**Next Meeting** Thursday, December 7, 2023 at 7pm.

**Closing Prayer** Br. Tarcisius. Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm.