

OUR MOTHER OF SORROWS AND HOLY CROSS PASTORAL COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 25, 2025

Present: Fr Bill Coffas, Fr Justin Miller, Seminarian Edward Fantuozzo, Tom McCall, Mary Ellen Clasgens, Michelle Giardano, Frank Kirchgessner, Stacey Ferris, Giovanni Zarcone, Lorraine Christie

Prior to the business meeting, the Council met in the Main OMOS Church Sanctuary for 20 minutes of Prayer and Reflection led by Fr. Coffas. We had a Prayer for the Beginning of a Meeting, a brief Scripture reading and some time to reflect. Finally, an Intercessory Prayer and a Closing Prayer as we moved to the Church Hall to have the PC Meeting.

We welcomed the New Members to Parish Council, Mary Ellen Clasgens and Lorraine Christie. And we thanked Giovanni Zarcone and Nancy Spoto for their loyal service to our Faith Community as they completed their terms of service.. Thank You to Michael Giordano and Luci Santangelo for their service as Youth Reps!

We also welcomed Edward Fantauzzo, who has completed his first year as a Seminarian and is spending the Summer with us at OMOS and HC.

We opened the floor for any comments about the previously distributed Reports. As we had planned we simply asked the Council for any comments on the Reports we had distributed 10 days ago - including the Youth Reports. Several important points were brought up. There was a very brief discussion.

HC School is having a Christmas in July Program to help to gather items the School needs for classes without burdening Teachers and Staff with Out of Pocket Costs. This will be in the Bulletins and Social Media.

Ignite and Impact Youth programs at OMOS/HC and Kateroi Tekawitha Parish Sites will collaborate in a joint program this Fall. Fr Justin and Fr Aaron Kelly are the site Coordinators.

Fr Bill had some comments and asked for some input. In summary:

Father thinks the Pre-Meeting Prayer is very positive - we were reminded about how best to share differing points of view and our visions and opinions ... we will plan to meet on Saturday mornings at 8:45 - immediately after Mass... this will not affect the standing meeting of the Stewardship Cmte at HC... The possibility of a Parish Directory - although important to the Faith Community - was deferred. The need for a group to coordinate the Buildings and Grounds and OMOSHC is pressing... group meeting for interested parishioners in July... It is important for the Pastor to hear what members are hearing and provide that info to him at the PC meetings... Vacant and dilapidated buildings at HC are a concern... they are not attractive to renters/buyers and their condition is becoming a concern....

Frank Kirchgessner suggested that PC members take a few moments at meetings and share how Christ has affected them in the past weeks... each member could share a very brief comment ...

K of C grounds project at HC, including Medina Sandstone that is identical to the stone used for the Church itself, is ongoing.. .an impressive and well done project ...Joint Parish Community Picnic planned for Sep 14, and at the same time and place (HC) we will have Ministry Fair to introduce Parishioners and others to the many ministries at our Parishes ... It was mentioned that we could, from time to time, have a "Teaching Mass " where the celebrant would explain and highlight some of the "behind the scenes" reasons and rubrics during Mass..... We agreed that the phrase "Rejoice with me ... I have found my Lost Sheep" would be strengthened by adding **THE LORD SAYS: or JESUS SAYS**highlighting it is Jesus as Shepherd who is Rejoicing ...

Finally, we voted (by "Acclamation") that Mary Ellen Clasgens would serve the upcoming 2025/2026 term as Vice Chair of Parish Council and Tom McCall will continue as PC secretary. Michelle Giardano is the Chair for '25/'26.

Fr Justin led us in a Closing Prayer and we adjourned at 8:15 PM.

It is a ways off, I know, but we have tentative schedule in place for Parish Council Meetings starting in September of 2025. Currently, our next PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING will be September 20, 2025 at 8:45 AM at Our Mother of Sorrows. Further details and a reminder will be sent as that initial meeting date draws nearer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom McCall
Secretary OMOS/HC Pastoral Council.