# OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

## Wednesday, February 21, 2024, 7:00 p.m., Parish Center

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| Present: | Monsignor Timothy Moran, Pat Adams, Jason Gilliland, Gail Kanarski, Ben LaBrecque, Jen Mackey-LaBrecque, Linda Newall, Linda Vizy |
| **Next meeting:** | **Wednesday,** **March 20, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.** |

Opening Prayer

January meeting minutes were approved.

**Recent Events**

* National Eucharistic Revival: There have been 58 attendees. Favorable feedback, good group discussions. Four more sessions to go, ending the Thursday before Palm Sunday.
* February Food Drive: Doing well. Amounts of food donated have been great, even this week (school vacation).
* Rhapsody in Blue Concert (2/10): Good attendance (~300 people). Matt Arnold set up on-line ticketing. Proceeds went to the parish. There were posters around town to promote the concert; Lynne Celli also sent an e-mail about the concert with a link to a YouTube video of Matt discussing his preparations for the event.
* Celebration of Marriage (2/14): It was decided not to have a Celebration of Marriage luncheon but to offer a blessing for married couples at each of the Masses and a gift of a small candle.

**Upcoming**: Trivia Night: Try for a date in the spring … or the fall …

**New Business**

* Creation Care Team visit to Republic Services (2/16): Linda V. updated Council about the trip that seven Creation Care Team members took to Republic Services Material Recovery Facility (recycling services) in Peabody. The group received a 90-minute tour and had questions answered about recycling. Members of Republic staff welcome the opportunity to present information to Our Lady Star of the Sea parishioners and Marblehead residents. Creation Care Team will continue that conversation with Republic and will inform Monsignor Moranonce plans begin to take shape.
* Concert series to continue
* Summer Garden Party (per last year, held behind the rectory): Do we want to have one this year? A date would need to be chosen, and someone would need to take the lead in coordinating it.
* Annual safety training for religious education
* Gail asked for an update on nursing home visits. Monsignor Moran, Ben, and Pat Bachelder visit three Marblehead nursing homes: Lafayette, Devereux, and the Mariner (visits started there three months ago). Communion is offered every week, and Mass occurs monthly.

**Renewal Efforts**

* Pastoral Council Vice Chair
  + Jason nominated Linda N.
  + Linda N. nominated Jason.
  + Pat nominated Linda N.
  + Gail suggested Lynne Celli, who was unable to attend this meeting.
  + Monsignor Moran asked each of those present to vote by writing a nominee’s name on paper, which was passed back to him for tallying. Linda N. was the winner.
* Website Page: To find Pastoral Council information on the parish website, go to the About Us tab, and Pastoral Council is first in the drop-down list (<https://www.sosmarblehead.org/pastoral-council.html>). The meeting agenda and minutes are there. How should Councilfamiliarize people that this information is there? Names and photos of who is on the Council should be added to the webpage. Council also should think about how someone might go about raising an issue to a Council member.
* Commissions and Ministries Development: Ideally, commissions, e.g., social, outreach, liturgical, would be formed and ministries would be categorized with each commission.
* Welcoming New Parishioners: We still should do this, although no plan yet.

**Other Discussion**

* It would be nice to have a webmaster (Monsignor Moran has been filling this role as of late). Ideas for finding someone to help with our website included arranging a work study for a college student (that has a spiritual background), enlisting a retired parishioner that has website building skills, and finding out who maintains the websites of local parishes.
* Updating our parish information in the town newspapers: Jason forwarded our parish summary via e-mail to Will Dowd of the Marblehead Current. Linda V. had e-mailed the summary to Ryan Vermette of the Marblehead Weekly News, but the most recent editions of the Weekly News did not reflect the updates. Linda V. will reach out again to the Weekly News to request the update.
* How is Mitch (facilities manager)? He has been coming to the parish for about an hour on Sundays. It’s unclear if he will be able to come back to work full-time, due to medical issues. Jonathan Johnston and Ivo Palavra have been covering Mitch’s responsibilities.
* The housekeeper recently returned from sick leave, the accountant has recovered from her ailments/injuries, and there still is no replacement for Katherine Tanner (bulletin editor, graphic and web designer).

**Future Agenda Items**

* Financial reporting: Still a manual undertaking for Monsignor Moran. There is no way to look at older data electronically due to the Archdiocese’s transition to Intec and not keeping electronic records from the previous financial system.
* How is it best to communicate with parishioners? Announcements at Mass, church bulletin, mailings, other?
* Hot Dog Sunday: Recently has taken place on the Sunday before July 4th. Might a good date for this year’s event be either 6/30 or 7/7? Council will discuss again at next month’s meeting. Maybe the date should not be too close to that of the Summer Garden Party.
* Vacation Bible School: The idea is being discussed. Lynne Celli would take the lead on organizing it. If it happens, it likely would be the week of 6/24.

Meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.