SCL Parish Council Meeting Minutes – September 17, 2026

Attended by: Fr. Dominic, Maggie Murphy, Vanessa Lewis, Gabby Vitale, MaryLee Burlemann, Chris Vaughan, Kari Bass, Lori Flauter, Maria Mattingly, Erin Hooper, Laura Wehnes, Sue Spaeth, and Steve Twele
Excused: Fr. Ajay and Jason Gray

Opening Prayer - Maggie led the opening prayer.

General - Maggie handed out the new nametags for the Council members and invited all members to wear the nametags at the "Pastries with the PC" event on October 11th. Maggie walked through the logistics for the event, including the layout in the gathering space, the food to be provided, activities for children and an information table. Maria and Erin offered to organize the activities for children. Maggie passed around a signup sheet for members to volunteer to set up and clean up for the event. Sue reminded everyone that volunteers are still needed for Homecoming and explained how to sign up. Steve handed out copies of an updated list of all Parish organizations, their leadership, and contact information. He discussed plans for the Parish Council to compile and organize information about the organizations, their activities and how they support the Mission of the Parish. This topic will be discussed further at a future meeting. It was agreed that a one page version listing the organizations will be prepared and be available on the information table at the Pastries event.

Discussion on Big Rock #1 (Domestic Church) – Kari walked through a Power Point presentation on the Domestic Church Initiative and how St. Catherine Laboure can better shepherd the homebound, returning Catholics and people interested in becoming Catholic in our local community. Proposed steps included:

- Sponsoring home Masses where neighbors who may have drifted away from the Church or are interested in learning more about the Church can connect with friends and Fr. Dominic in a casual social setting;
- Consider mapping the Parish into informal sub-zones for better long-term pastoral care and broad outreach. This could also help in identifying homebound parishioners; and
- Identifying parishioners who may feel cut off due to age, illness or mobility and arranging Eucharistic and companionship visits.

Vanessa, Chris, Laura and Maria expressed interest in hosting a home Mass. Jason had previously also volunteered to host. Kari and MaryLee will coordinate the process with the intent of having at least one home Mass before the October PC meeting. After the first and again after having several home Masses the Council will debrief what worked, what didn't and how to improve the process.

The group discussed ways to identify and inform parishioners who may need homebound services without offending them. Announcements by the priest as Mass and notices in the bulletin were mentioned.

There was also a discussion of recognizing school grades at Mass as a potential way to encourage school families to regularly attend Mass. Fr. Dominic mentioned that there is already an ongoing effort to have youth involved in hospitality at Mass. This idea would require coordination with the Liturgy and Education Commissions.

Restarting Mass on the Grass and maybe combing with Social Saturdays was proposed. Sue mentioned that Mass on the Grass ended previously due to a lack of volunteers to handle the set up and clean up, but that if there are sufficient volunteers it could come back.

Discussion on Big Rock #2 (Hospitality) - Maggie had provided a handout on the Hospitality Initiative. Due to a lack of time, this discussion will be carried over to the October PC meeting.

Announcements – Maggie noted that there will be a Scripture Rosary for the sick on September 22nd at 6:30 p.m.

Closing Prayer - Kari led the closing prayer.

Next Meeting - October 15th

October Closing Prayer - Steve Twele