

St. Augustine Catholic Church
Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)
3700 Callan Boulevard, South San Francisco, CA 94080
Tel. No.: (650) 873-2282 | Fax No.: (650) 873-1356
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55th PPC Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, 30 September 2026

Parish Hall Renovation/Facility Updates: Restroom and Church Shade

Key Action Items

- Construction phase is officially underway after design and permitting approvals.
- Weekly construction meetings are being held to monitor progress, budget, and any change orders.
- Safety improvements were implemented around the construction staging area, including fencing and relocation of the temporary restroom.
- Additional planned improvements include:
  - Parish Hall flooring replacement
  - Roof work
- Current target completion date is around November 20, with hopes of finishing before Thanksgiving.

Background:
Father Ray and Deaconess reported on the ongoing bathroom renovation project, noting that initial construction stages are underway with parameters being set for communication between the constructor, Deacon Virgil, and the chancery. They discussed safety improvements including fencing of the staging area and relocation of the toilet to improve movement flow. Deacon Nestor mentioned weekly construction meetings on Tuesdays at 1:30 PM with Steve Bowers and the construction team to review progress and address issues. The team aims to complete the project before the November 20th deadline, with Deacon Virgil committed to keeping costs within budget.

Franciscan Jubilee Year Committee

Key Action Items

✓ **Upcoming activities include:**

- October 3-4 celebrations
- Mass for the Care of Creation on Saturday
- Children's prayer cards will be placed in a time capsule and buried near the St. Francis shrine.
- Sunday Solemnity of St. Francis:
  - Special liturgies at all Masses
  - Procession to the shrine
  - Blessing of the El Camino Mission Bell
  - Bell dedication ceremony

✓ Fr. Ray to coordinate with Bert to check the condition of the El Camino Mission Bell tomorrow and plan to paint it light green.

Background:
Father Ray discussed the St. Francis Jubilee celebrations planned for October, including a Mass for the Care of Creation on Saturday at 9 o'clock and special masses on Sunday for the 800th anniversary of St. Francis's death. The highlight will be a high Mass at 12:30 followed by a procession to bless and dedicate the El Camino Mission Bell, which will be painted light green after addressing rust issues. Father also mentioned plans for a follow-up meeting regarding the Camino walk activities scheduled for October 24.

Introduction of the "5th At-Large member" (Young Adult) – Phoenix Gudiel

Key Action Items

- Phoenix Gudiel, a 16-year-old parishioner, was introduced as the new Gen Z representative on the Council.
- He is involved in:
  - Jubilee Committee
  - Ecology Committee
  - High school photojournalism

Background:
Father Ray announced that Phoenix Gudiel, a 16-year-old Gen Z member, will join the pastoral council as a youth representative.

Phoenix introduced himself as a high school junior involved in the Franciscan Jubilee Committee,



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○ Earth Club leadership • PPC emphasized the importance of youth voice and engagement in parish planning. **(Fr. Ray to work with Phoenix's parents to ensure his participation in the Parish Pastoral Council as the youth representative.)**	Ecology Committee, and photojournalism, as well as president of the Earth Club at his school. The PPC welcomed him to the council to provide insights into how to make the church more relevant for young people. The meeting focused on welcoming Phoenix to the Parish Pastoral Council, with St. emphasizing the importance of youth representation in the council. Phoenix expressed appreciation for the opportunity and discussed the need for better connections between youth and older generations, particularly regarding religious and governmental involvement.
Young Adult Engagement Proposal Update	
☑ **Key Action Items** **Led by Sanjay.** **Progress:** • Visited other parishes and events to gather best practices. • Meeting with young adult leaders planned. • Tentative target launch: November. **Key feedback from Deacon Nestor:** • Focus not only on logistics. • Clearly define the spiritual purpose and desired outcomes. • Ensure liturgy remains central and meaningful. **Topics discussed:** • Concerns that a few parents are pulling youth from church activities due to academics or perceived lack of productivity. • Denise and others provided context that the youth group remains active and healthy, regularly attracting 12-18 youth leaders and participants. • Youth gatherings include prayer, faith-sharing, leadership formation, service planning, retreats, and community-building. **Consensus:** • Do not overreact to isolated concerns. • Continue dialogue with youth leaders. • Strengthen communication with parents. • Set up a follow-up meeting with the Baywide Young Adult team next week to learn the tactical side of organizing a candlelight mass.	**Background:** Sanjay provided an update on plans for a candlelight youth mass, sharing visits to St. Dominic's and Star of the Sea in San Francisco, as well as Half Moon Bay, where young adults expressed enthusiasm for the initiative. The group then transitioned to discuss Sanjay's proposal for a candlelight mass, which he had presented to some young girls and attended a BYU Young Adult Mass to research implementation details. Sanjay planned to meet with the Young Adult Ministry and present a complete plan to them, targeting November for the event before the busy December season. Deacon Nestor suggested focusing more on the pastoral purpose and spiritual outcomes rather than just the operational aspects, recommending conversations with the sacristan and considering input from the OCIA group. The discussion also covered challenges with engaging both youth and parents in faith activities, with John noting that some parents are asking their children to stop participating in youth groups due to concerns about productivity.



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- Meet with the Young Adult Ministry next week to discuss proposal and alignment, assign clear roles for the candlelight mass (liturgy, readers, music, set u**p**, hospitality) targeting November for the event.
- Attend the Archbishop's presentation for young men at the cathedral in October (date to be confirmed).

NEW BUSINESS:

NAFP (National Association of Filipino Priests)
Fundraising through sale of Gold Coin

☑ **Key Action Items**

- Bay Area will host approximately 450-500 Filipino priests in November.
- St. Augustine was assigned 200 commemorative coins to sell; approximately 150 remain available.
- Proposed strategies:
  - Ministry-based sales
  - After-Mass promotion
- More announcements and education on the purpose of the fundraiser

Vivian and Rosabel:

- Work with Fr. Ray to allocate first the remaining 150 commemorative coins to various parish ministries to offer as gift with $100 donation.
- Announce the sale of commemorative coins in the parish bulletin (Flocknote) and during announcements, emphasizing the scarcity (only 150 left, only available in October).

Background:
Father Ray discussed the upcoming visit of 450-500 Filipino priests to the Bay Area from November 3-6, explaining that local priests will host and subsidize expenses including hotel and travel costs across three dioceses. The group needs to sell 150 commemorative coins at $100 each to raise funds, with Vivian suggesting that various parish ministries take turns selling coins after Masses on October 25th.

Workshop/Clergy Convocation Update
(Reaching, Engaging and Inspiring the Next Generation)
"From Christendom to Apostolic Age"
The Church needs to:

- Move beyond focusing only on those already attending church.
- Better to understand and engage:
  - Millennials
  - Gen Z
  - Fallen-away Catholics
  - Non-practicing Catholics.

Important concepts:

- Intentional discipleship
- Evangelization beyond parish walls

Father Ray also shared insights from a recent convocation about the paradigm shift from Christendom to apostolic age, emphasizing the need to better understand and engage fallen away Catholics and younger generations, with plans to potentially discuss these findings further at a future pastoral council meeting.



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- Understanding the needs of younger generations

Using current Catholic Leadership Institute research to shape parish priorities. Potential future action: PPC retreat/workshop to study these findings and apply them at St. Augustine.

☑ Key Action Items

Invitation to speak to the Council:
Mark Filips (President of Vision Works-Omaha and Chicago)

(Discussion began on restarting fundraising for the larger Parish Hall project after restroom construction ends.)

Background:

- Previous feasibility study cost approximately $60,000.
- Consultant Mark Phillips was selected before the bankruptcy process interrupted plans.
- Proposed next phase would cost approximately $114,500 to manage the capital campaign and help raise several million dollars for the project.

PPC feedback:

- Most members support using a professional consultant.
- Some requested clarification on:
  - Success metrics
  - Alternative options
  - Current fundraising goals
  - Whether a new feasibility study is needed.

Next Steps:
Father Ray will invite Mark Filips to a future PPC meeting to discuss options and answer questions.

Re-establish contact with Mark Filips regarding the capital campaign for the parish hall construction project.

Background:
Father Ray discussed the potential continuation of a capital campaign for the Paris Hall expansion, which was interrupted by bankruptcy proceedings. He proposed inviting Mark Phillips, a fundraising consultant, to present his approach and address concerns about the $114,000 contract for leading the campaign.

The pastoral council agree to have a consultant and about 70% favored using the same consultant (Mark Filips) though some members requested more information about criteria and measures to succeed before making a final decision. Father Ray agreed to schedule a follow-up meeting with Mark Philips to present his proposal and address questions from council members.