

# Our Lady of Victory/Our Lady of Snow Minutes

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October 2, 2018 6:30pm Our Lady of Victory Classroom Rm 116

Meeting called by	Chris Russell (President)	Attendees
Type of meeting	Pastoral Council	Fr. Patterson, Chris Russell, David Benjamin, Chris Carroll, Julie Darling, Brian Lewis, Adrienne Villano, Mary Wootten, Maureen Cox, Sara Detmer, Chuck Ciaccia, Peter Ficalora, Sharon Ryan, Warren Dolan, Kimberly Loccisano
Facilitator	Chris Russell	
Note taker	Adrienne Villano (Secretary)	
		Excused: Peter Ogno Absent: Frank Lamiano Guests: Mary Eaton, Vici Armsby

## OPENING PRAYER – EVANGELIZATION PRAYER

Approve September Minutes – Julie Darling & David Benjamin

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### Agenda topic – Mission Statement Subcommittee Discussion

Draft of announcement to parishioners submitted for review and approval

#### Discussion/comments:

Be more direct, shouldn't include background info regarding books  
Too much info; a concern people won't read  
Have been discussing that same point in book group...it is difficult to summarize  
Chris C. pointed out that she is asking for comments

**Confirmed** – we are asking for parishioner's comments & suggestions, not to create the mission statement but to be included in the process  
We need to open the door & put this in the hands of the people

Chris R. warned that some of the comments may be reactionary to current events; not necessarily in regard to a mission statement

Propose literature as appropriate for intention

Maureen pointed out that “you never know what will come out of the randomness of suggestions.”

Parish & congregation is evolutionary – constantly changing

We could find out a lot of information – An opportunity to find out where people are at

Chris R. – We always have struggled with getting feedback

Do what we do then judge by comments &/or complaints – a technique

Reiterated – Would like to have an endpoint regarding completion of mission statement but if on going, that’s ok but a shorter time span is ideal

Mission Statement flyer to be included in October 13/14 bulletin and on Parish app

Brian read aloud the first line of the announcement draft ‘Our Lady of Victory/Mission Our Lady of the Snow Parish Leadership is on a mission to become a Parish of Intentional Disciples’ then asked “Is it done???”

Mary Eaton – we need to define a little more

Will be a benefit to gather reflections & thoughts of parishioners

Chris C. did provide an example of an intentional disciple which was taken from Sherrie Weddel

Some parishioners may not even know we have a mission statement at all

Decided that someone from committee would make an announcement for *assistance* in creating a new mission statement at each Mass, i.e. point out that there is an insert in the bulletin so people more apt to look and so also won’t think the council and committee are asking for the statement to be written completely – just give suggestions.

Who are we? So succinct – we are salt and light

\*needs explanation as people won’t know what/who an intentional disciple is

Mary W. – should have someone explain so not intimidated

Maureen C. read 3<sup>rd</sup> line on announcement– “An intentional disciple is a person who makes a conscious decision to know, love and serve God and to be the face of Christ to others on a daily basis.”

There is new language / terms to get used to

Why is this so important? How? Simply record ideas to compile

Do you love & serve God??? Then you are an intentional disciple!

Father commented that if he were to mention anything then would have to confer with committee as to what to say

This weekend is Haiti breakfast...decided – Council member to make announcement/request Father Patterson to highlight

Must develop paragraph to introduce

Not efficient to pass out request for suggestions. Better idea to create insert for bulletin, Fr. Patterson to highlight, and council member to announce

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### Agenda topic – Eucharistic Congress

Father Patterson - OLV/OLS had good representation

Maureen – There were 30-35 people from the parish that attended. There was ‘such a feeling of holiness’

Larger outcome with approximately 4000 people in attendance as opposed to the 3000 expected

Day was well orchestrated even with sound system issues.

“Hearing 4000 people pray at once was amazing.”

Mary Wootten mentioned that as she was in line for confession she thought it funny that people were avoiding confession with Bishop Ed.

Julie told the council that her uncle, a Jesuit priest, Reverend John Diehl, SJ, is buried at Auriesville and that she was able to find the cemetery and locate his grave.

Feedback from the diocese?

Father Patterson said there wasn’t anything official but that people were uplifted; it was wonderful. Also, Auriesville is the geographical center of the diocese

The Ravine is a reliquary, a vessel that holds the remains of a saint (the bones of St. Rene Goupil).

Elly O’Rielly was quoted in the Evangelist

Is there any follow-up planned?

Fr. Patterson – What is the Bishop to think of next? :o)

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### Agenda topic – Book Group

Discussed first two chapters. Key ideas and welcome reflections

Discipleship is a lifelong process of cooperating with God’s love and grace

Defining charisms

Open one’s heart to God’s

Chris Carroll recalled a conversation she had with 2 friends (one a fallen away Catholic and the other of another faith). Chris spoke of receiving Eucharist, love and forgiveness. Chris also spoke to her friends of the ministries. Chris acknowledged that faith journeys are all different and individual.

When asked how her friends' reacted, Chris said her friends became quiet. She realized one must become comfortable with being uncomfortable. How does one respond? It's easy while at an event such as the Eucharistic Congress; much more difficult when among others....the conversation ended.

Father Patterson – Look at the Gospels - The rich man listened and walked away  
Also, think of Nicodemus asking to bury the body of Jesus. – “You never know what will happen when words are taken in. Then what? That is the beautiful thing.”

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### Agenda topic – Pastor's Report

- Interjected comment – really have to plan for Ministry Summit – put in May 15<sup>th</sup> bulletin

Father Patterson – Summit important

- Next year –Pastoral Ministry of Christ the Son of Justice – Father to take on responsibility in the fall of 2019

Mass schedule at OLV to change in June. Since taking on Mass at RPI, thought should cut down from 3 to 2 Masses at OLV on Sundays and then an evening Mass at RPI on Sundays.

It is important to have a 7:30am and 9:15am at OLV – eliminate the 11:30am

How will this change impact OLS? No impact foreseen

Fr. Patterson would like to say and be comfortable in saying that, in a pinch, he could cover all Masses (OLV, OLS, RPI). Not good to build a Mass schedule on backs of retired priests

Protect what will happen in Fall 2019; start new OLV schedule June/July 2019

Be mindful of what already exists in regard to having Mass at OLS & RPI

Peter F. suggested that if had to – to offer Eucharist only at OLS, people did not object – was all about coming together and receiving Eucharist which is most important

Vici – no need to offer Eucharist alone – there are people to fill in

Suggestion – Since 9:15am Mass at OLV is live streamed, could there be a screen at OLS?

The last time the Mas schedule was changed, it did not take.

When should we communicate change? By Easter...we need to speak to the people

- Two seminaries to go to St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers to exercise Diaconate Ministry and Pastoral Care

Transitional Deacon to start in November - through May when ordained

- Prayer & conversations regarding sexual abuse-  
1pm session – 14 people  
7pm session – 3 people  
Comments good, very forthcoming. Questions as to moving forward, how can we use positively?

Brian – Saw raw emotion, people not getting over it, i.e. hearing from meeting and what people have told him

Nothing new around here – good to get in open & move on

Julie wondering if there would be value in having a session in Grafton  
Father Patterson is not available

Peter F. – Stated that in his opinion, was a shame not many Council members attended either session. Peter F. stated that he was “Ashamed to be in this group for the moment.” He was ashamed at response of this group (council) not to be at the meeting

Vici – Facilitates VIRTUS, should not be forced to attend. This subject is a sensitive topic that implodes parishes and communities

Comment – Bishop Ed encouraged parishes to have and attend these sessions – He did not mandate attendance

Maureen reminded that Bishop Ed also encouraged parishes to attend the Eucharistic Congress

Julie, clearly upset, stood and voiced that she was a victim of abuse in the workplace & going to meeting was too much. Adrienne & Vici equally upset, supported Julie & were also truthful regarding their past experience with abuse.  
Conversation heated then ended.

- Father Patterson reported there are 60-65 children enrolled in PreK.

### Meeting adjourned

Closing prayer – Father Patterson

Next Meeting November 6th, 6:30pm