



VISION

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JUSTICE & PEACE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Monday, September 13th, 2021-6:30 pm – 8:00 pm-Sacred Heart Church Commons

[Justice And Peace | Sacred Heart Catholic Church \(sacredheartnorfolk.org\)](https://www.sacredheartnorfolk.org)

Attendees: Frank Murphy, Mike Stark, Brendan Pigott, William Wallace, Francesca Smith, Tom Bosse, Patricia Britz
Excused: Christopher Woods

Frank opened the meeting by welcoming and thanking attendees. *Much has happened this month in the US, Haiti, and Afghanistan. Let us observe a moment of silence for the end of violence, racism, and injustice in our world.*

OPENING PRAYER— William read last Sun. Gospel Reading **Mk 8:27-35** Reflection followed: Today Jesus asks us: “Who do you say that I am?” Take a few moments and seriously ask yourself: Who do I say Jesus is? Who is he to me? Is he simply a man that lived over 2,000 years ago? Or is Jesus real to me? Ask yourself: How does Jesus and his teaching and example of self-sacrificing love, affect my daily choices and actions? Is the impact significant? Or is it minor?

THE SIGNS OF THE TIME from the Catholic Virginian—Members congratulated Tom on his article [Diocese should issue mask mandate](#). The articles on Social and Environmental Justice highlighted were: Cardinal Gregory urges ongoing prayers, support for Haiti. Pope encourages living simpler, eco-friendly lives.

OFFICE OF SOCIAL MINISTRY (OSM)

Patricia reported that Rachael Lastrup and Marie Hess send regular invitations for prayers and formation on various subjects related to Social and Environmental Justice. Those events from the diocese are done mostly on ZOOM. On Tuesday, September 14th from 12-1pm, Commonwealth Catholic Charities and the Office of Social Ministries and Respect Life are hosting a virtual gathering to provide updates on Afghan refugees in the state of Virginia and information on how parishes can most effectively offer support.

Link: <https://richmonddiocese.zoom.us/j/95797540390>

Meeting ID: 957 9754 0390

Call In: 929-205-6099

In partnership with Commonwealth Catholic Charities, there will be a virtual informational session regarding Afghan refugees that are currently at Fort Lee, Fort Pickett, and Quantico. Jay Brown, CEO of CCC, and his resettlement team will provide the most up-to-date information on this situation, offer insight into some of the complexities facing this community, and provide ideas on how parishes can effectively offer support during this time.

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES (CRS) CHAPTER

Frank reported that initiative in the Richmond Diocese continues. Virginia now has a Chapter which meets monthly with Chapters nationally followed by a state meeting. The Members not only are instrumental in advancing CRS’s mission to help those most in need around the world but also have opportunities to learn more about CRS’s work and hone their leadership skills through webinars, presentations from guest speakers and trainings. POC: Frank and Patricia

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (PPC)

Tom reported that PPC will meet on Tuesday, September 28th. The Memorial for Neil Walsh is mostly completed: a granite bench will be placed in the Peace Garden at Sacred Heart. The dedication will occur in the fall. Left over funds collected, about \$2,000 will be turned in to Social Ministries. Also, PPC membership will remain in majority the same this year. Work on Strategic Planning continues.



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Frank highlighted a few dates on the J&P CALENDAR for September-November.

Check the new J&P website, and church bulletin notes for additional information. Thanks were extended to the office.

FORMATION

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING 101-Solidarity Sr. Ruth Bolarte, Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle, and Sean Callahan. — [CST 101 | Solidarity - YouTube](#) Brendan showed this formation piece on Global Solidarity and lead a reflection. Solidarity is an intention. We are one family. When one part of the body suffers, the whole body suffers. We are connected to the body of Christ and his contemporary mission.

MINISTRY UPDATES ON REPORTS

1. CARE FOR CREATION

[Environment Ministry | Sacred Heart Catholic Church \(sacredheartnorfolk.org\)](#)

2.

***Vision Statement:** Honor God the Creator by challenging one another to lives partners with creation by being good stewards of the earth's resources **Mission Statement:** As a parish, we shall identify and implement programs that exercise environmental stewardship in a manner that respects and protects the integrity of God's Creation and provides for the Common Good.*

Frank reported that Clean the Street Day on Saturday, August 21st, starting at 9:00 am went well. 13 parishioners met in the Sacred Heart parking lot to clean our allocated part of Princess Anne Street. The team collected 50 pounds of trash that they sorted by recyclable and non-recyclable. Keep Norfolk Beautiful. [Keep Norfolk Beautiful | City of Norfolk, Virginia - Official Website](#) provided the material needed to pick up trash. The next clean-up day will be in early November. See notes in the church bulletin. Next meeting: Mon., Sept. 20th, in the Sacred Heart Commons at 7:00 pm.

3. THANKSGIVING BASKETS

Anne provided the dates of the collection on calendar below. See church bulletin for additional information.

4. SOUP KITCHEN

Christopher sent this report. The soup kitchen has been serving 60 meals through the pandemic. For the past few months, we have been serving the meals in compostable take-out containers. Our stocks of dry goods are running low. **ANY DONATIONS OF PASTA AND SAUCE WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED.** Francesca donated many boxes of pasta. Thanks Francesca!

5. HOMELESSNESS

The Norfolk Street Choir Project (street sheet)

Patricia reported that Stephanie sends weekly street sheets as an update on churches/synagogues serving meals, and offering showers, clothing, and other services. See street sheet attached. This document was distributed to attendees.

Norfolk Catholic Worker--Steve sent this report. The Norfolk Catholic Worker continues making sandwiches at Sacred Heart on Mondays. and Wednesdays. The city is now putting up nearly 300 people (200 in hotel rooms and 100 at The Center on Brambleton and Granby). Even so, the number of people we've seen in August on our soupline has risen slightly. We've also been taking ice cold Gatorade to people on some days when the heat index has been 100 or above. If anyone would like to contribute **32 OZ. BOTTLES OF GATORADE**, we may see such hot days for several more weeks.



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Our **Black Lives Matter** vigil continues from 4:15-5:15 pm on Thursdays at the corner of Hampton Blvd./27th St. Even when there are no new high profile police killings of unarmed African Americans, between nationwide efforts to make voting more laborious for Black communities and several states passing laws restricting how race can be taught in classrooms, it is unfortunately always timely to take a public stand for justice for our Black brothers and sisters. peace, Steve

The Center/Temporary Shelter--Anne Odell sent this report. Our regular NEST program with rotation between churches/synagogues will not be taking place this winter. The city will be providing a new interim shelter for this upcoming winter season. The shelter will be moved from the bus station (The Center) to another location.

Ghent Area Ministry Board

Frank gave this report. The Board meets the 2nd Friday of the month. Frank and Patricia continue cleaning the GAM neighborhood and finding ways to encourage GAM in becoming environmentally aware. In addition to his clothes and food pantries, Tim offers services for getting ID, birth certificates, computer skills to look for jobs, bus tickets to go to medical appointments etc. He also assists with occasional utilities bills. Please stop by any time to meet Tim.

6. HAITI TWINNING MINISTRY

Vision Statement: *We, the parishioners of the Sacred Heart have been called to enter in a twinning relationship with our brothers and sisters at Saint Gabriel (SG), Haiti. Together, we follow the principals of Catholic Social Teaching to foster faith-filled relationships, self-sustainability, and an end to dependency.* **Mission Statement:** *End Dependency while following the principals of Catholic Social Teaching.* 14th YEAR IN TWINNING!

<http://www.sacredheartnorfolk.org/ministries/justice-and-peace/haiti-ministry/>

Patricia reported: On Au. 14, 2021, a 7.2 magnitude earthquake struck Haiti across several major cities. This is another major setback in a country struggling with political instability, COVID-19, food security, and now a devastating earthquake.

ANNUAL REPORT—Sacred Heart Parish and the greater community supported SG School in this manner this year (July 2020-June 2021): salaries for 11 teachers (\$100 monthly), ½ head of school, and 1 nurse; lunch fees for 23 students (\$420 per child), 1 set of high school books, 21 full tuition scholarships (\$275 each), and some medical assistance. We are slowly decreasing our assistance to the operational costs at the school while investing in small projects that are **source of revenue and jobs for SG**: a vegetable garden, a water system for the Parish Community Center, a shop to sell clean drinking water, and a small stationery shop to sell school supplies. The goal is to help our twin parish to become increasingly self-sustaining, and eventually independent from outside aid, while praying together and continuing to grow in friendship.

SAVE THE DATE:

Parish Haiti Twinning Ministry Open House Presentation, Sun. Sept. 26th 4:00 pm-6:00 pm. HTM members will host this presentation: Charity that Leads to Sustainability. Twinning with Dignity. Cheese and crackers will be served.

7. RESPECT LIFE FROM CONCEPTION TO NATURAL DEATH

Frank and his daughter, and William, and Patricia continue writing to our elders POC: Patricia



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Patricia reported that about 4 parishioners continue a prayerful and peaceful presence at Planned Parenthood a couple of times monthly. They meet with other participants from local churches to pray the rosary and hand out literature. Francesca donated new baby clothes to Hope 4 Life.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

November Sacred Heart Ministry Fair: Date to Be Determined-POC Meg Leeman
 9/26 Haiti Twinning Ministry, Open House/Parish-Sustainability, Pictures, Cheese/Crackers

Frank offered the closing prayer: Solidarity with Afghanistan

J&P CALENDAR: SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER 2021

September	
SOLIDARITY MONTH	
9/5,12, 19, 26	Soup Kitchen
9/7-	<i>Haiti Twinning Ministry 6:00 pm light dinner, meeting 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm-Commons-Guests are Welcome</i>
9/13-	J&P Meeting Resumes, 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm, Commons, Guests are welcome
9/20- (Mon.)	Care For Creation Meeting resumes, 7:00 pm-8:30 pm-Commons
9/16-24-	HTM Haiti Solidarity Novena, Prior to Parish Solidarity Weekend
9/25_26	13th Annual Parish Solidarity Weekend (Prayer of the Faithful, Haiti Hymn/Cantor, bulletin calendar of activities insert)
Sun. 9/26-	4:00 pm-6:00pm Haiti Twinning Ministry Open House Update/Charity that Leads to Sustainability-Twinning with Dignity Cheese & Crackers-Commons
October	
10/3, 10, 17, 24 31	Soup Kitchen
10/4	Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi (Patron Saint of Animals & Environment)
10/4-	J&P Meeting, 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm, Commons, Guests are Welcome
10/12-	<i>Haiti Twinning Ministry 6:00 pm light dinner, meeting 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm-Commons-Guests are Welcome</i>
10/4- Mon.	Fall Care For Creation Meeting, 7:00 pm-8:30 pm-Commons
November	
FOOD INSECURITY MONTH	
11/7,14,21,28	Soup Kitchen
11/08-	J&P Meeting, 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm, Commons, Guests are Welcome
11/16-	<i>Haiti Twinning Ministry 6:00 pm light dinner, meeting 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm-Commons-Guests are Welcome</i>
11/5-	Friday, Thanksgiving Basket AM Set Up-Commons
11/6 &7-	Week 1-Thanksgiving Baskets: pulpit announcement, shopping list & dates in bulletin. Link on the Sacred Heart Website with updated shopping list/dates



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11/ 13 & 14	Week 2 -Thanksgiving Baskets: pulpit announcement, shopping list & dates in bulletin. Link on the Sacred Heart Website with updated shopping list/dates
TBD	Winter Street Clean Up, 9:00 am - 10:30 pm (Care for Creation Team & Volunteers)
11/20 & 21-	Week 3 -All nonperishable food due by 4 p.m. Sun. Nov. 21
11/21-	Thanksgiving Baskets: Sacred Heart Youth Sort & Count Food, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
11/22 Mon.	Thanksgiving Baskets: Volunteers pack food in reusable grocery bags, 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm
11/23-	Tues. 9:00 am Fr. Paul blesses food, Agencies pick-up bags, 9:00 am - 11:00 am
11/24-	Thanksgiving Eve, Advent Giving Tree Display (Eastern Shore and Saint Gabriel Children)
11/25-	Thanksgiving Day
11/27&28	Advent Giving Tree Display Week #1 (Eastern Shore and Saint Gabriel Children)

PARTNERS: **Rachael Lastrup** OSM Director, Richmond Diocese, **John Guglielmino** Norfolk Community Service Board Program Administrator Housing & Homeless Services, **Timothy Giddens** GAM Director, **Nancy Perry** Major Gift Officer, VA Supportive Housing/Richmond (11/8/21 guest), **Steve Baggarly** Norfolk Catholic Worker & Sowers of Justice, **Theresa Stanley** Sowers of Justice (this group represents many Social Ministries in Eastern Vicarate), **Jay Brown** CCC, **Chris Tan** Catholic Charity, **Marla Newby** Reentry Coordinator, **Ed Marroni** (Holy Family/Environment & Sowers of Justice), **Pam Boatwright** Elizabeth River Projects, **Fleta Jackson** Keep Norfolk Beautiful, **Anne Odell**, CENTER POC, **Mallory Reckling** FoodBank of Southeastern VA & The Eastern Shore Community Engagement Coordinator (3/1/21 guest), **Jeff Caruso** VA Catholic Conference, **Cheri Britt**, **Louantha Kerr** (Co-Directors), **Liz Danlez Baby Bottle Drive Coordinator**-Hope4Life, **Joann Wagner** (Birthright Pregnancy Center), **Denise Parker** Health Educator-FAMIS Department of Medical Assistance Services Commonwealth of Virginia (5/3/21 guest)

RESOURCES

- September 13, 2021: [CST 101 | Solidarity - YouTube](#)
- [Justice And Peace | Sacred Heart Catholic Church \(sacredheartnorfolk.org\)](#)