

ST JOHN XXIII, GENEVA,
THE PAC PRESIDENT – PRESENTATION AT THE 2023 AGA:
THURSDAY: 1 JUNE 2023

WELCOME

I welcome you all to this year’s AGA. In line with our mission as the English-speaking Roman Catholic parish of St John XXIII, who come together to share our gifts as a community of diverse nations and cultures:

- Celebrate and live our faith through prayer and the Sacraments and service to others;
- Teach and proclaim the good news of our Risen Lord Jesus Christ;
- Reach out in solidarity with all people of goodwill to promote Truth, Justice and Peace.

You are **attending this year’s AGA by virtue of being members** of our associations according to “*Article 4 – Members*” of our statutes.

For our new parishioners, I would like to introduce what our PAC (Parish Administrative Council) is. “*The PAC is responsible for the Parish’s day-to-day Administration and Finances, the Parish Office Staff, Grounds and Maintenance, and Legal issues regarding the Canton and Diocese.*”

UPDATE ON KEY PARISH STATISTICS IN THE YEAR 2022

Our parish has 4’700 registered members including children; 26 new faithfuls were welcomed into the Catholic Church in our parish.

Our parish celebrated the following sacraments in the year 2022: there were 51 Baptisms in the year; 35 faithfuls received their First Holy Communion; 22 faithfuls received the sacrament of Confirmation.

Sadly, out of the 9 funeral masses celebrated in our parish, 5 requiem masses were for our deceased parishioners.

Special note about this year’s AGA:

This year’s AGA is being held in conformance with the timeframe stipulated in our Parish statutes. Last year’s AGA was held on 14 June 2022.

I wish to express my gratitude to the entire PAC team, who includes Fr. Paul our Parish priest, our office staff, and all volunteers who help run the day to day affairs of our parish, our religious activities, and our various charitable outreach programs.

“*Article 8 – Convening of the General Assembly 1. The General Assembly shall be convened by the Parish Administrative Council at least once a year, no later than 30 June.*”

CONVENING THIS YEAR'S ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

This year's AGA has been properly convened.

*"Article 8 – subsection 3. A **General Assembly shall be deemed to be properly convened** if the members are notified of the agenda, date and venue thereof at least fifteen days in advance."*

Presiding over the AGA: This year's AGA is being presided over by the President of the PAC in accordance with our parish statutes.

"Article 10 – The President or Vice President of the Association shall preside over the General Assembly."

The **2022 accounts & 2024 budgets were made available** in the Parish Office and [online](#). (Statutes Art 8. Sec 5). as required by our statute.

PAC positions. Article 16 – Elections and Terms of Office, stipulates that (registered) members of our parish can be elected to fill any open PAC positions.

1. The terms of the PAC President, Vice President and Maison Diocésaine de Genève liaison are due for renewal.
2. Confirmation of the candidate (Julian Senderos) for Property Management, replacing Yvonne Moussy who is leaving Geneva next year.
3. Open position for Fundraising (previously held by Jorge Flores who left Geneva last December 2021). All Candidates to submit their applications by 23May)

THANKSGIVING TO NOTE TO VARIOUS PERSONS & ORGANISATIONS

Special thanks **to our Cure Moderateur, our Parish Priest Fr. Paul Friel**, who has continued to serve our parish diligently.

Special thanks to **our PPC, Office Staff, lay persons who have volunteered for various assignments in our parish, our various ministry members, religious education team, our choir and to you our members.** For the spiritual and material support for our parish and its members.

Special thanks to those **volunteers who diligently** offer their time and skills in supporting various parish activities..

Special thanks to **assisting priests at various masses and religious events.**

Special thanks to **PAC member, Yvonne, who has been responsible for our Parish Maintenance**, who will be leave the PAC after 4 years of diligently serving our parish as a PAC member on pro bono basis (free of charge).

2022 – 2023 MILESTONES and EVENTS

For the sake of our new parishioners, the Parish took loans and also received pledges totally CHF5.2 million in 2012 and 2013 to refurbish our present parish building that houses the priest's apartments, the parish offices, the catechism classes, activity rooms, and the parish hall.

Repayment of Mission Interior loans and the Federal covid-assistance loans: our parish completed repaying these 2 loans. The outstanding loan balance is now CHF 385,000 from ECR. This is commendable and we hope to complete, with all your help, repaying all our loans within the next 2 years.

Revised Statutes: The Diocese approved our revised statutes, and the English and French versions of the statutes have been posted on our Parish website.

Religious formation and catechism: The parish has been running catechism and religious formation classes.

Fundraising events: The parish held various fundraising events in the year since our last AGA. These have included the Barrio Fiesta, the intercultural food festival.

Fr. Paul and the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) will **update on pastoral matters.**

2023 – 2024 VISION & TO DO LIST

This new year, the parish will conduct various **charity fundraising activities** to support various outreach activities that the parish is committed to, and to also raise funds to help pay down the balance of the ECR loan.

Our **2023 annual fundraiser, “International Food Festival”**. This event is usually scheduled for May or June of every year.

Parish policies and procedures, completed include those affecting:

- **Updated Parish ByLaws**
- **Human Resources**, affecting parish staff.

We look forward to **maintaining our parish as a welcome centre for spiritual direction and masses.**

We will continue to **support Fr. Paul to enable him to effectively carry out all his pastoral work.**

We will continue to **motivate our Parish Staff to enable them effectively carry out their work in the parish.**

We will continue to **support our religious formation volunteers**, by providing the facilities they require to continue with their religious formation and religious support work.

PARISH FINANCES

The PAC in May 2023, prepared the **2024 budget** and posted these on the parish website 2 weeks before the AGA as stipulated in our parish statutes

Special thanks to the PAC for their vigilance in ensuring the Parish remains financially sound and capable of meeting its obligations as and when due. I also commend the Parish Accountant for maintaining well the parish accounts and financial statements.

Our parish staff have been very supportive in complying with laid down finance and administrative procedures and policies, and implementing approved required changes as and when necessary.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL HEALTH OF THE PARISH

Our Parish has remained financially sound and has been able to meet its approved regular financial commitments.

We maintained all our employed parish staff of 4 persons, the Accountant, Receptionist, IT Coordinator, and Director of Religious Education.

PARISH LOANS STATUS

Our Parish has 3 loans as follows:

| Lenders | Balance Outstanding CHF | Repaid since last AGA CHF |
|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ECR | 385,000 | 40,000 |
| MI (Mission Interior) | 0 | 78,470 |
| Swiss Government Cantonal – Covid 19 loan | 0 | 89,000 |
| TOTAL LOANS – As at 20th June 2021 | 385,000 | 207,470 |

Note: Total loans received from ECR & MI was chf.2.6m. in 2012/2013, from ECR chf.2.2m; from MI chf.400k. Received in 2020 from Swiss Govt. chf.78k.

NOTE: VARIOUS UPDATES FROM THE MINISTRIES AND PAC COORDINATORS HAVE BEEN POSTED ON THE PARISH WEBSITE

CLOSING REMARKS:

THANK YOU, OSCAR MBECHÉ, PAC PRESIDENT and JOSELITO BENITEZ PAC VICE PRESIDENT.

2 JUNE 2023
