



Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes March 23, 2010

“Journey with Us Building God’s Holy Family”

Members in Attendance: Fr. John Tapp, Martha Briggs, Patricia Eley, Mark Hanks, Tony Kapkowski, Michelle Klima, Claudia McIvor, Mary Naughton, Juan Ocano, George Pioli, Ann Whitlock
Members Excused: Jim Currey, Tara Kenyon

The Pastoral Council meeting opened at 7:05 PM with prayer led by Claudia McIvor. This was followed by reflection on the Gospel for March 28 led by Pat Eley.

Acceptance of Minutes

Minutes of the February 23 meeting were accepted as written.

Pastor’s Report

Fr. John reported:

- The decision has been made to continue our worship in Diffley Hall and the School Dining Room during the renovations. While Pastoral Council members favored using an available facility, both the Finance Council and the Pastoral Staff favored remaining on our campus. The move to Diffley will begin on May 10. Members of Pastoral Council should serve as greeters and help to direct people for at least the first few weeks. We hope to have music at all liturgies. There will be “double” liturgies at all weekend Masses except the 7:30 AM. Announcements will be made at Mass beginning on Easter. The offering of Child Care will be up to those who lead that ministry. Once the renovations begin, there will be tours through the church once a month, and we hope to post photos on the web site every week so we can all follow the progress.
- The registration deadline for the School has passed, but not everyone has registered so follow-ups are being done. Three teachers are retiring, and one has already been hired for next school year. We will also have a student from Notre Dame’s ACE program who will teach Social Studies for two years.
- We are hoping to get another Notre Dame student but from the ECHO program who will work with our Faith Formation ministries as well as Youth Ministry. If we get this person, some discernment is still needed with regard to the duties, but they will probably require some liaison with St. Paul’s youth ministry.
- We are gearing up for Holy Week. A lot of preparation is needed.
- The F.A.S.T. Nehemiah Assembly is on April 19. All Pastoral Council members should be there and bring at least 3 people.
- Eight or nine people are going on the Haiti trip. We have large amounts of supplies and equipment to take. Many people have been involved in sorting medications and packaging them into doses. There has been wonderful support throughout the parish for this mission.

Liaison Committee Reports

Finance Council – Fr. John noted that our offertory is holding its own. The school and ECC are having problems with delinquent tuitions because of the economy. For the first time in a very long time we have had to dip into the interest on the endowment.

S.A.C. – Written report for March. The results of the Auction are not yet available, but the live auction netted about \$20,000 for the 23 items sold.

FFAC – No report, no meeting

Stewardship Council – No report, no meeting.

Pastoral Council Lead Committees

- **Pastoral Council Discernment** – The first announcement will be in the Easter Bulletin. Nomination forms have been run off for placement in the church.

Old Business

- **Capital Campaign Report** – Tony Kapkowski reported that Bob Metz is still working on the roster. As soon as that is ready, teams will begin ringing doorbells.
- **S.W.O.T. Combined Results** – Claudia provided a summary of the 5 most frequently mentioned items in each of the four categories, from the combined results of Pastoral Council and M/OMs. She noted that this is not

“hard” data but is very subjective. She asked each member of Council to mention the item about which we feel most strongly. The following items were cited (in no specific order):

Opportunities – Communication/Technology

Weaknesses/Challenges – Youth Ministry

Burnout/Apathy

Facilities

Continuity/Follow up

Communication Issues

Threats – Factors out of our control (real or feared)

Burnout/Apathy

Inadequate facilities

It was also noted that our parish population does not appear to have many people in the age range of late 20s to early 40s. This is the largest unchurched group all around the country. With regard to the concern about Apathy/Burnout, it was suggested that we develop a campaign on “New” – new church, new beginnings, etc., especially if the Adult Faith Formation implements the New Beginnings program they are discussing. It was also observed that many of the concerns may be perceived rather than real. People say we do not have Youth Ministry, but we have a youth choir; we have youngsters who serve as ushers, greeters and lectors; the dances we hold each month have more than 100 children in attendance. While there is still more to be done, we do have youth ministry and may need to work on making people aware of what is happening.

- **SPRED** – Claudia reported Karen Galinowski is working with Grace Harding to determine what model we want to use for working with other-abled. Grace has worked with special needs people all her life, and is a valuable resource to tap. There will be a flyer in the Bulletin about a Mass and pot-luck supper on April 24 for other-abled folks and their caregivers. Parishioners who have an interest in this ministry are also encouraged to join them.

Open Discussion

- Pat Eley noted that she arrived at the 11:00 AM Mass just as it was getting started, and remained in the back of the church. She was very concerned about several things she observed:
 - Many people march right out of the church after receiving Communion.
 - People who attend regularly do not use envelopes.
 - The apparent need to increase the consistency and frequency of the message about what the responsibilities of parishioners are.

It was agreed that these items are concerns that need to be addressed again and again.

Council adjourned at 8:43 PM with prayer led by Claudia. The next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, April 27, 2010**, in the Church Office, Room 201, at 7 PM. Parishioners are always invited, and are encouraged to attend.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Naughton