

Pastoral Council Minutes **April 4, 2011**

Preliminaries: The meeting opened with the Pastoral Council Prayer at 7:00 pm. The reflection was read by Barb Utrata.

Attendees: Matt Bolton, Doug Davis, John Dorger, Chris Gebhardt, Kevin Kohls, Brian Krause, Ken Krusling, Debbie Meinhardt, Claudia Miller, Annemarie Moushey, John Mueller, Jane Mueninghoff, Barb Utrata, and Mary Ann Lampe (scribe).

Agenda Items:

1) Approval of March minutes – All The minutes were approved and seconded as written.

2) Finance Committee report – Brian

We have budgeted revenues of over one million dollars and at this time are \$27,000 ahead. Chris – how does the budget compare to 2008 before the economy dropped? Brian – it has been pretty flat, income flat and, also, the Sunday counts. Expenses have been rising. Have had some windfalls (\$24,000 stock donation) which have helped keep us even. The debt is now \$415,000. When we get this paid, we will save \$60-80,000 annually in interest. The staff does a good job of looking ahead. Compared to what we've heard from other parishes, we are doing really well considering the recession. Jane-the finance committee and the staff are just planning on going along and paying the debt off on schedule? Brian-with the current economy, yes. I am pushing the committee to have a target number for cash-on-hand. We need to do a facilities "walk around". I'd like to see a little more concentration on "cash-on-hand" for the facilities than paying off the debt. We do not want to have a debt drive; we have too many second collections already.

3) April activities:

Bread delivery (4-9) Kevin We have 44 families. Broken down into fifteen routes. It would be helpful if we would push it back a week to 4-16. Agreed to change the date and Kevin will pass out schedules next week at Stations.

Lenten Mission (4-10) review sign-ups. Jane passed around a sign-up sheet for set-up, hospitality, food.

Stations of the Cross and dinner (4-15) sign-up with worship commission. Everyone signed up and Jane will send each their reading so they can practice. Be there at 6:45pm. Dinner at Bravos at 7:45pm.

Holy Thursday (4-21) Washing of Feet with worship commission. Jane – just help wherever needed. There will be towels and water at about ten stations. Wash one foot with just a little water. Just throw the used towels on the floor. Start out washing staff's feet, then each other. Families wash each other. Just jump in and help as needed. Be there at 7:15pm.

Election Weekend (5-8/9) Vote counters please sign-up soon. Matt, John Dorger and Gerry Deehan are running again. Debbie – we need two members at every mass to count ballots.

June meeting on June 6. Combine with Pastoral Council picnic. Agreed to have it at the Pavilion if available.

4) Special Needs Ministry – Annemarie March was National Disability Awareness Month and April is National Autism Month. St. Max had a special room set up at their fish fry for sensory sensitive children. It gave families an opportunity to attend as a family. Our annual retreat will be in the fall, and that is a wonderful retreat for parents of special need children with babysitting provided. Last year it was here for St. Max, St. John's and St. Suzanna. It lasts for half a day ending with lunch. Debbie – that's something PC could do, provide and serve lunch. There is a video put out by several religious denominations that shows how to include special needs people in their worship. Annemarie will find out if the diocese has a copy for a group showing. Will talk to Fr. Don about planning something for March, 2012.

5) Parishioner Comments – Doug Several parishioners expressed their dislike for the reading of the letter from the Archbishop in lieu of a homily.

6) Visioning Project – review/update action steps – All Ken – will have numbers at next meeting. Scott has acknowledged the request. John has talked to Debbie. Barb – would like to do the letters to First Communicants earlier. Usually we do not get them out until Sept./Oct. There are eighty-five making their First Communion this year. Everyone will report at next meeting.

Closing Prayer: Jane Mueninghoff Jane led the council in prayer and we adjourned at 8:30pm.

Next Meeting: May 2, 2011