

Pastoral Council Meeting
February 18, 2009

Present:

Father Barr	Tom Cosgrove	Ed Longo
Tom Denton (Finance)	Kathy Elder	Bill Price
Colleen McGraw	Loretta Haring (Fellowship)	
Tessie Ballard	Liz Coyle (Adult Enrichment)	
Gail Rivera	Molly Brady,	Dave Surber
Kaitlin Miller (Youth)	Ruth Milano (Liturgy)	Dan Palumbo (Rel. Ed.)
Steve Sabo	Donna Wardrup (Rec. Secretary)	

Absent:

Bill Stehle Pam Lemanski (Adult Youth Rep.)

Meeting called to order by Molly Brady at 7:05pm.

Opening prayer led by Colleen McGraw.

Review and approval of minutes: Minutes from the January 14, 2009 meeting were reviewed. There being no objection a motion to approve the minutes was made by Ed Longo. It was seconded by Steve Sabo. Motion was approved.

Pastor's Report: Next cluster meeting is scheduled for March 19th. Archbishop O'Brien has asked each parish to offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Wednesday evenings during Lent from 7:00pm to 8:30pm. This program is titled "The Light is On for You." Holy Family will offer this. The Council meeting scheduled for Wednesday, March 26th will be moved to Thursday, March 27th.

Old Business:

Building Expansion Update/Traffic Discussion: Father Barr reported the traffic pattern has changed due to the closing off of the lower level. There is a temporary parking lot available as you come around the horseshow driveway to the right. Father Barr has announced this at Mass so people can take advantage of this parking. Discussed having the parking lines re-stripped and moving the handicap spots on the side of the parish offices due to traffic flow. Additional parking signs will be added.

Capital Campaign Update: We have received 182 pledges. Pledged amount is \$3.493 million; cash received \$1,479 million. The money invested from the Heritage of Hope Campaign is stable. Father Barr met with the co-chairs of the campaign, Vernon Pizzi and Roy Kilby on February 4th. They discussed jump starting the campaign again in the fall. Father Barr will be sending letters to all those who made a pledge giving them an update.

Cluster Update: Tom Cosgrove thanked the Council members who sent their responses to Colleen McGraw regarding why they attend Holy Family and ways we can work together as a cluster. At the last cluster meeting, discussion included:

1. What do the pastors do?
2. What do they do that someone else could do?
3. What could be done to help alleviate some of what the pastor's do?
4. Do we need a business manager at each of the parishes?
5. What kind of personnel will be needed?
6. How much do the parishioners know and do they understand.
7. What social/liturgical events can we do together?

All three parishes will remain open and have their own identity.

Council discussed having a joint meeting with Holy Family staff to discuss items such as how we are going to operate with Father Barr's time reduced; what decisions will Pastoral Council and staff be able to make. Youth ministry knows we are clustering. They are ready and willing to invite other youth groups to events. Our facilitator could possibly come here to facilitate the meeting between Council and Staff.

A suggestion was made to ask each parish to develop a task list. What could be done by each parish? How many people would be needed?

Father Barr suggested to the cluster representative that pertinent cluster information needs to be shared with the three parishes. What is published at Holy Family needs to be published at Our Lady of Perpetual Help and Our Lady of Sorrows. Colleen McGraw volunteered to prepare a flyer based on notes from the previous meetings that would go in each parish's bulletin.

Handicap Friendly Initiatives/Idea: Steve Sabo discussed with the Council ways the church could be more user-friendly to those with disabilities. There are certain areas where it is difficult to get around. One idea was to have more handicap spots spread throughout the church – not just by the baptismal font. Steve knows someone who could come and look at the church to see how it could be made better accessible for those with disabilities.

Ministry Reports:

Religious Education: Two classes have lost teachers. Religious Education class times will change on Sunday mornings due to traffic situation. A letter from Father Barr and Sharon Graham will go out to all parents explaining why.

Adult Enrichment: Pro-Life issues are being urged by the Archdiocese. Should we be adding an intercession during the Prayer of the Faithful?

New Business: Open Discussion

Pastoral Council Chairperson Tom Cosgrove stated that the Council came up with three to five year priorities which have, for the most part, been accomplished. One priority, Youth Ministry, has moved forward. One priority which needs more work is evangelization.

Chairperson Cosgrove then opened the floor for discussion.

Dan Palumbo reported that the Light House Shelter, West Street, Annapolis, is in the process of building a new facility. It will be the largest on the east coast. There are currently sixteen churches that “sponsor” them. We were on the list to be contacted. The shelter services about 600 people a year. With the new facility they will be able to service 1,200-1,400 people. Holy Family has been doing a food drive for the past few years in January to support the shelter. If the council is interested in continuing this, Dan will contact the Social Justice Committee.

Maryland March for Life is March 9th from 5pm-8pm. Encourage youth to attend.

Kathy Elder suggested we have information available for funerals, i.e., readings, music, etc., that could be put on the website for easy access of parishioners' use. Holy Family currently has folders which are given to family members with copies of the readings appropriate for funerals, list of appropriate music, suggestions for general intercessions.

A Men's Ministry was once discussed as a new ministry which has not yet been addressed.

Faith and Light Ministry is working on having a Mass to bring aware to those with disabilities. Family members will participate as lectors, altar servers, greeters, ushers, etc.

Molly Brady asked about whether we would have a place to put coats, etc. during highly attended Masses at Christmas and Easter instead of using the pews in order to facilitate more seating. Father Barr said that there would be a room for coats in the new building.

Bill Price stated that if we wait too long to into the Spring to re-start the fundraising, we may miss people who leave for the Summer.

Donation: Steve Sabo had the January donation. Council discussed his suggestion to give the donation to the Association of Retarded Citizens.

Tom Cosgrove reported that we had received requests from the Apostleship of the Sea Ministry, Port of Baltimore and the Msgr. O'Dwyer Retreat House. Father Barr reported that we had also received a request from Father Larry Johnson who works with the AIDS Interfaith Network. We also received a "thank you" note from Betty Ryon for the Council donation on behalf of the Gary Lee Ryon, Jr., Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Steve Sabo recommended that his January donation be split between the Association of Retarded Citizens (\$500) and the AIDS Interfaith Network (\$500). Motion was approved by Council.

Ed Longo has the February donation. He requested that \$500 be given to the Msgr. O'Dwyer Retreat House and \$500 to the Apostleship of the Sea Ministry, Port of Baltimore. Motion approved by Council.

Miscellaneous Comments:

Reviewed upcoming events to attend at Holy Family.

Closing Prayer and Blessing: Father Barr

Meeting Adjourned: 8:20pm

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 26th, Narthex

Prayer Next Meeting: Pat Mutschler

Donation Next Meeting: Liz Coyle

Respectfully submitted by: Donna Wardrup
February 27, 2009

Edits: BP, KE