

Pastoral Council Meeting
March 26, 2009

Present:

Father Barr	Tom Cosgrove	Ed Longo
Pat Mutschler (Finance)	Kathy Elder	Dave Surber
Colleen McGraw	Pam Lemanski (Adult Youth Rep.)	
Tessie Ballard	Liz Coyle (Adult Enrichment)	
Molly Brady	Dan Palumbo (Rel. Ed)	Steve Sabo
Donna Wardrup (Rec. Secretary)		

Absent:

Bill Stehle	Loretta Haring (Fellowship)	Gail Rivera
Ruth Milano (Liturgy)	Kaitlin Miller (Youth)	Bill Price

Meeting called to order by Tom Cosgrove at 7:05pm.

Opening prayer led by Pat Mutschler and Steve Sabo.

Review and approval of minutes: Minutes from the February 18, 2009 meeting were reviewed. There being no objection a motion to approve the minutes was made by Pat Mutschler. It was seconded by Dan Palumbo. Motion was approved.

Pastor's Report: Father Barr sent a letter to parents of the Religious Education students notifying them of the change in class times and the parking situation. No feedback was heard.

Father Barr asked the Council for feedback on the visiting clergy while he was away. Council members stated they received very positive comments on Fr. Rick Hilgartner. Fr. Barr explained that Fr. Roland, who helped at a few Masses, is from Madagascar. He will be helping us with our Easter Masses in the Chapel.

Archbishop O'Brien asked the churches in the Archdiocese of Baltimore to offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Wednesday evenings during Lent. We have averaged between 12-24 people each Wednesday evening. This has been very well received.

Pledges to our Capital Campaign continue to come in. We currently have \$3.4 million in pledges with \$1.5 million received. The co-chairs will need to speak again about the campaign. We may do an in-pew campaign similar to the Archbishop's Appeal.

The Faith and Light Ministry is hosting a Mass for Disabilities Awareness Month on Saturday, March 28th at 5pm.

A Vocation discernment luncheon is being held on Saturday, March 28th at the home of one of our parishioners. Archbishop O'Brien and Fr. Jerry Francik, Vocations Director, will attend. Approximately 30 invitations were sent to high school youth.

There have been recent acts of violence in churches in the mid-west. Father Barr will be working with the local police for information in case of a lock down.

Old Business:

Building Expansion Update: The major difficulty coming up will be the closing off of the lower level. There will be an emergency egress.

The Religious Education office will be moved to the nursery space on March 31st.

The Parish Offices will be moved to the lower level on June 1st.

The completion date of the expansion has been pushed back to October/November. We are looking into increasing the workers and possibly have them work a six day week. The contractors and architects are looking into the cost of this. We will have that information by early April. At that time a decision will be made on whether to move forward with this in hopes of getting into the building sooner. We have lost approximately one month due to weather and change orders.

Upgrades of the glass and insulation will be made to the building. Resealing of the windows in the church has been completed. The cost was approximately \$37,000.

The parking lot will be re-stripped by Palm Sunday to help with two-way traffic flow. This should be done by Palm Sunday.

Cluster Update: Colleen McGraw reported the cluster meeting was held on March 19th. One of the topics discussed was a joint website. A subcommittee is being formed to help put this together.

Handouts were reviewed with Council members on the different scenarios for the cluster, i.e., two priests for three parishes.

The members of the cluster teams also discussed how to engage staffs and Pastoral Councils on where the process stands to date. A meeting will be held with staffs and councils but no date has yet been determined. Colleen worked on an insert for the bulletin. We are hoping it will go in the Easter bulletin. It was sent to our facilitator, Catrese Brown, for review and approval. The insert should go in all three bulletins.

Handicap Friendly Initiatives/Ideas: Steve Sabo is waiting to meet with the architect to discuss ways to make the church more user-friendly for those with disabilities. Steve did speak with Bill Stehle and Bill is preparing a drawing and will come up with a recommendation. Father Barr recommended that Steve speak with Nancy Patterson as she had some ideas on redesigning the pews.

Ministry Reports:

Youth: Pancake supper was a big success. The only issue was they did run out of bacon and sausage.

Youth is planning a weekend retreat in April.

New Business:

Pastoral Council Elections: Molly Brady reported there will be six vacancies on the council that will need to be filled. This weekend, March 28-29, volunteers from the council are needed to speak at the Masses to encourage parishioners to run. Those volunteers are:

5pm Mass – Molly Brady
8am Mass – Tom Cosgrove
9:30am Mass – Dan Palumbo
11:00am Mass – Pat Mutschler

Nomination weekend is April 4-5. Election of new council members will take place the weekend of May 9-10.

A representative from the Pastoral Council, Steve Sabo, was recommended to participate in the Washing of the Feet at the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday.

Neighborhood Captains Program: Tom Cosgrove gave an overview of this program. Neighborhoods of parishioners registered at Holy Family can be geographically mapped creating a way to reach out. 60% come from Davidsonville; 40% from Crofton, Mayo, and Edgewater and other areas outside the parish boundaries.

One of the major goals of the council is evangelization. The Belonging to Believing group met for nine training sessions to help foster ideas to bring people back to church. This effort needs more work.

Community Captains and Neighborhood Captains Action Plan was reviewed by Tom Cosgrove. The plan specifies the work that would need to be put into place and what the goals and steps would be. A suggestion was made to possibly start off with a test neighborhood where they have an established networking system. After further discussion, it was decided that a subcommittee from the Pastoral Council would work with the Belonging to Believing group to get established. A meeting will be set up between the group and Tom Cosgrove, Kathy Elder and Steve Sabo.

Pastoral Council Retreat: Each year a retreat is held to work on the goals and priorities for the upcoming year. The Council will look at having a retreat in the fall with the new members. A date will be determined by the June Council meeting.

Finance: The next meeting of the Finance Committee will be Saturday, March 28th. Pat Mutschler reported that we are not seeing a decline in

collections. We are staying steady. Ministry budgets are due by April 3rd. Father Barr reported that the Catholic Center has put a freeze on priests' salaries and has asked the same for school and parish salaries.

Open Forum:

Some Catholic schools in the Archdiocese may need to make cuts due to decrease in enrollment. Enrollment at the School of the Incarnation for year 2010 should be approximately 810 students. Tuition assistance at the School of the Incarnation has gone up. Holy Family will host Mass and dinner in June 2010 for the graduating class.

One investment that did take a hit was the Grant money that was being made available for use by our ministries. Therefore, this will not be available for this year.

Donation: Liz Coyle recommended the \$1,000 donation be given to the Cardinal Keeler House of Discernment in Baltimore. This houses men discerning a vocation to the priesthood and the monies will go to help support them during their stay. Motion was made by Pat Mutschler to approve; seconded by Kathy Elder. Motion approved.

Two "thank you" letters were received from previous recipients of the Council donation. First letter read was from the Association of Retarded Citizens and the second letter was from Fr. Larry Johnson who works with the AIDS Interfaith Network.

Attendance list: Tom Cosgrove informed Council that in order to vote on issues, a quorum of members needs to be present at the meeting. This was an issue at a previous meeting. Please continue to stay committed to the Council and the meetings.

Closing Prayer: Fr. Barr

Meeting adjourned: 8:25pm

Next Meeting: April 22nd, Narthex

Prayer Next Meeting: Dave Surber

Donation Next Meeting: Kaitlin Miller