

Pastoral Council Meeting  
October 28, 2009

Present:

Father Barr	Tessie Ballard	Tara Barber (Youth Rep.)
Tom Cosgrove	Liz Coyle (Adult En.)	Kathy Elder
Ed Longo	Dave Surber	Colleen McGraw
Dan Palumbo (Rel. Ed.)	Kathleen Orndorff (Finance)	Ron Van Nest
Donna Wardrup (Rec. Sec.)		

Absent:

Bill Stehle (Building)	Betty Ryon	Steve Sabo
Loretta Haring (Fellowship)	Ann Marie Scrivener	

Meeting called to order by Ed Longo at 7:10pm.

Opening prayer led by Ed Longo.

**Review and approval of minutes:** Minutes from the September 23, 2009, meeting were reviewed. There being no objection, a motion to approve the minutes was made by Colleen McGraw. Motion was seconded by Ron Van Nest. Motion was approved.

**Pastor's Report:**

Fr. Barr commented on the Blue Ribbon Committee assembled by Archbishop O'Brien. The Committee is designed to address problems with declining enrollment in Catholic Schools. The majority of the schools in the Archdiocese of Baltimore have experienced declining enrollment, mostly elementary schools.

There are four major categories being discussed:

1. Catholic identity
2. Academics
3. Stewardship
4. Governance

A team of 19-20 pastors have been invited by the Archbishop to sit on an ad-hoc committee to discuss the findings of the Blue Ribbon Committee. A "draft" report will be presented in December to the Archbishop at a special meeting he has called. The focus will be on mergers and consolidations of schools. The findings will come out in March, 2010.

**Ministry Reports and Questions:**

**Fellowship:** The RCIA reception scheduled for November 7<sup>th</sup> was cancelled due to budgetary issues.

**Youth:** The youth groups continue to meet on Sundays. Upcoming projects are: painting of the new youth center, youth spaghetti dinner, Hashawa retreat for high school youth, and the Appalachia trip for next summer.

**Adult Enrichment:** The Gloria Polo retreat was very well attended and enjoyed by all. Very positive comments were received.

A vocations discernment day will be held at Holy Family on Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 2pm with Deacon Joe Gill. Archbishop O'Brien has been attending dinners throughout the Archdiocese to meet with young men discerning a vocation. This is taking place at homes of parishioners throughout the Archdiocese. Fr. Leo Patalinghug will be taking those discerning a vocation out to dinner when he comes for our parish mission.

### **Old Business**

**Handicap Friendly Initiatives:** Ruth Milano and Steve Sabo have been working on this project. Need volunteers to help with this. Ruth will ask Deacon Tom Beales to help with the moving of the pews. Four pews will be moved (two long and two short pews). This should be accomplished prior to the December 6<sup>th</sup> dedication. The date suggested was November 14<sup>th</sup>. There is a memorial Mass in the church at 1pm that day. Church would need to be cleaned and ready prior to the Mass if pews are moved that day.

**Building Expansion Update:** Floor for the new social hall will be installed on Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup>. This should be completed by Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. It is a vinyl floor with a protective laminate.

The weekend of November 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, Father Barr will update the parishioners on the expansion and the Capital Campaign. There will be an in-pew appeal for donations.

A "giving tree" with names of families who pledged with the Heritage of Hope Campaign and the Capital Campaign will be placed on the wall in the lower level lobby. Memorial stones will be placed on the three classrooms and the Oratory.

**Music Minister Update:** Ron Brown, our new Music Director, will officially start November 1<sup>st</sup> and will plat at the 8am and 9:30am Masses.

**Capital Campaign – Fundraising Effort Update:** We have received 190 pledges for the campaign. We have \$3.5 million pledged; \$1.7 million cash received. As stated previously, an in-pew appeal will take place the weekend of November 7-8, 2009.

**Cluster Plan Update:** The next cluster meeting will be held on Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup> at Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

There was good discussion at the joint Pastoral Council and Staff retreat on how to involve both groups. The study of Pastoral Care at each parish will need to be discussed. What are we doing as follow up to baptism preparation and baptisms, marriage preparation, religious education, confirmation, marriage enrichment, communion calls,

funerals, bereavement ministry? How do we handle this as a cluster? Follow up is needed from staff retreat on items that only a Pastor can do.

**Pastoral Leaders Orientation Feedback:** This has been tabled until the December meeting as there is another meeting scheduled on November 21<sup>st</sup> and members of the Pastoral Council are planning to attend.

**Catholic Neighborhood Network Update:** The test neighborhoods will begin within the next two weeks. At the next Pastoral Council meeting the group should be able to share the results. There are approximately eighty neighborhoods. A communication link will be established between a “captain” and the community.

**Fall Retreat Goals:** Reviewed the Goals and Objectives that were discussed at the Pastoral Council retreat. Goals need to be placed in order of priority. A goal was assigned to each council member. It is to be reviewed and written with a clear objective. Once the goal/objective is revised, it is to be sent to Tessie Ballard, Secretary, for incorporation in the finished document.

**Donation:** Kathy Elder proposed the \$1,000 monthly donation be divided equally between St. Rita’s Supper Table and Holy Family’s St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box. Mary Catherine Haines from Our Lady of Sorrows works with St. Rita’s. They operate a soup kitchen. Ron Van Nest announced that he had the donation for the November meeting and was going to submit a request for the \$1,000 donation to go to Holy Family’s St. Vincent de Paul Society due to the great need at that time of year to help make Christmas possible for families in need. A suggestion was then made to have half of October’s donation go to the food pantry at Our Lady of Perpetual Help. A motion was made to approve \$500 for St. Rita’s Supper Table and \$500 for the food pantry at Our Lady of Perpetual Help. All were in favor. Motion approved.

Kathleen Orndorff made a motion to vote on Ron Van Nest’s request for the November donation since he will be unable to attend the meeting. The motion was approved and all were in favor of the November donation going to the St. Vincent de Paul Society at Holy Family.

**Closing Prayer and Blessing:** Father Barr

**Next Meeting:** November 18, 2009 – Library

**Prayer next meeting:** Loretta Haring

**Donation next meeting:** Ron Van Nest (donation approved for St. Vincent de Paul Society at Holy Family)

**Meeting adjourned:** 8:55pm

Respectfully submitted: Donna Wardrup  
November 5, 2009