

**BLESSED SACRAMENT CATHOLIC CHURCH  
PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES  
December 13, 2008**

**PRESENT:** Fr. Tom Mattingly, Randy Hook, Chris Pipkins, Yolanda Blake, George Collins, Keith Holzer, Kim Maggiolo, Cathy McClatchy, Liz McDavid, Mindy Morrison, Rex Moyers, Pam Murphy, Marcia Pearce, Maria Pena Taylor, Chip Studwell

**ABSENT:** Kilders Giron, Fred LaSpina

Randy Hook called the meeting to order at 9:15AM, with an opening prayer led by Liz McDavid.

Chris Pipkins apologized for forgetting to bring the Mission Statement he had prepared. He will be sure to bring it to the next meeting.

**Voice of the Pastor**

We Walk By Faith Update

Fr. Tom said he was not ready to talk about the We Walk By Faith meeting that is scheduled, but he reminded us that the Bishop is coming to visit our parish on Nov. 22, 2009. He hopes that some of our Council members, who will be leaving this year, will take part in this future meeting.

Update on Campaign Committee

Our Building Campaign Committee, reached out to the Hispanic Community separately, in a different way, due to economic situations. We did get about 90 people to sign up and commit to donations at a recent Mass, and we will do this again at future Masses. Not all people can attend Mass each Sunday, and we are trying to reach out to all of them. We have ordered and plan to give them monthly envelopes. It is very interesting trying to sort out the names they give us, with what we have on the computer.

There will be a second collection this Christmas for the Building Campaign, especially to contact those people who do not come to Mass regularly. We will be handing out special envelopes for this collection at Christmas Day Masses.

Our Logo for the Building Campaign is the Round Rose Window (from our old church loft) and the theme is: "Building on our Heritage – Committing to our Future".  
Our Patron Saint is St. Joseph.

Mindy Morrison mentioned that about 150 people had responded to the Help Survey, offering help in fund raising, office work, etc. Many had helped in the last building campaign too. At a meeting at the Morrison's house, they decided that there were not a lot of BIG givers anymore, and that our funds were going to have to be raised by pledges and many fund raising activities. Fr. Tom agreed and mentioned the tamale sale that the Hispanic ladies had held after a couple of Masses, which produced almost \$800 profits to be donated to the Building Campaign Fund. There will need to be more events like this in the future.

Mindy said that the Committee hopes to have a “Kick Off” for the parish in February or March, and they want it to be free to everyone, not a country club event, but an event where people can take part in activities that cost some money that will go to the Building Fund.

Fr. Tom said that the Campaign needs to “get rolling” so that there will be more ways for people to see opportunities to contribute in time and talent, especially if they don’t have the money. Yolanda agreed, and mentioned how happy the women felt about the donation they could make after their hard work for the Tamale Sale.

#### Pastoral Council Meeting

Fr. Tom noticed that our April P.C. Meeting was scheduled on Holy Saturday (the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of that month), and we all agreed to move that meeting to April 18<sup>th</sup>. We all agreed. Chris Pipkins noted that the Discernment Meeting for new members would be held on April 4<sup>th</sup>, the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month.

#### Parish Life Committee Update

Fr. Tom said that the International Festival, has been substituted for the Parish Picnic and that we also hold the Hispanic Heritage event – he would like to see that made into something more of a “bridge” parish event. Then there is the Vigil party after Easter Vigil Mass, which anyone can attend. Father then asked what we would like to see as part of the Parish Life events. Rex Moyers said he worked on the budget list with Maria, and some of the money was put aside for Parish Life events. They will meet over Christmas, to set some goals and recruit members to form the Committee, and present it at the January meeting.

### **Voice of the Council**

#### Epiphany Party

Pastoral and Finance Councils will meet at the Morrison’s home on January 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm, with dinner to begin at 7:00 pm. Mindy suggested and it was agreed on that there would be a gift giving of under \$20 each. A sign up menu sheet was circulated. Fr. Tom said that he would bring a spiral ham. Others should bring a large dish to share.

#### Cursillo Update

Randy Hook reported that there was a men’s Cursillo Retreat coming up in May 2009. Tom Hook would be the rector. George Collins is on the team. If anyone knows of anyone who would be interested in this, they should tell them about it, and sponsors will be found. The location is not positive yet. Yolanda suggested that a bilingual retreat would be a good idea.

#### YAM Update

Angela and Daniel Green have moved out of state. Colleen Slipka has taken over coordination of the ministry. More people are needed in the group to get more activity, and the effort is being made to accomplish this. Several activities are scheduled for Advent and the holidays, and after. They are listed below:

### **YOUNG ADULT ACTIVITIES**

Advent Group – Thursdays of Advent

Holiday Party – December 20, an evite was sent to those who are on the YAM listserv

HARTZ Volunteers – 12/21, 12/22, 12/23

Theology On Tap – January 8, 2009 at Franco’s Pizza, 7 pm (Fr. Tom is speaking)  
YAM Planning Party – January 11, 2009, Panera’s, contact Colleen for time  
Theology On Tap – February 12, Location TBA, 7 pm  
Big Brother’s Big Sister’s Bowl For Kids Sake, February, TBA  
2009 Young Adult Ministry Convention – February 21 and 22, Richmond, VA

### Wine and Cheese Event

Fr. Tom told us that this annual event is scheduled for Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, in the Commons. Council is considering the possibility of expanding the size of this event and moving it to Johnston Hall because of its popularity and success. This event is drawing more and more people from outside the parish. In January, Council Members will be asked to sign up to donate foods to this event. Kim Maggiolo and her husband are coordinating the foods

### **Committee Reports**

#### Lifelong Catholic Learning

The committee spokesperson, Keith Holzer, said that this committee was going to meet today after the Pastoral Council Meeting, with a report in January.

#### Bridge Building

Yolanda Blake, committee spokesperson, said they hoped to meet soon, so that they could report in January on some of the ideas they had presented last month. Marcia Pearce said they had been trying to get a survey together about time, treasure, talent that people have to contribute to the parish, and then get this on a data base of volunteers, not just for the building campaign, but for any occasion when we need people to help out with parish activities. Fr. Tom said, he had told the Campaign Committee that it would be a great idea to get a Volunteer Coordinator, someone who could get in touch with volunteers by phone. Graciela Pinedo has done this some, and received good response from her phone calls. Marcia said in her past experiences at other parishes, it was amazing the responses they got to phone calls, versus letters. Creating and maintaining this data base would be a big job.

#### Outreach Ministry

Committee spokesperson, Kim Maggiolo, distributed a status report. She had spoken with Fred LaSpina, director of our parish Outreach Ministry. We have two hot meal programs and the Food Pantry, which serves over 400 families a month. We belong to the HARTS program, which provides meals and overnight shelter to the homeless in the cold months. There is also the Giving Tree at Christmas and the Mission trips to rural areas of Virginia and beyond. And we have people visiting shut-ins and nursing homes and prison. She feels that the Council can help with awareness of these projects, for more parish support. She also mentions that the church needs a truck – especially to pick up the foods from the Food Bank. There is hope that when we build our new building we will have space for a bigger, more convenient food pantry.

Fr. Tom stated that we are also involved with supporting People Helping People, the Free Clinic and Second Home. We have a Bed Ministry too, which used to be called 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday. Now it is just beds, and we rent a space to store these in. Dick and Terry Bueker oversee this. Maybe we should think about if we want to continue with this, in the way it is organized now.

### Budget Committee

Rex Moyers, committee spokesperson, distributed a budget proposal report for 2009-2010. He stressed that this was a first draft, a “working budget” and that these numbers would change. One of the things he noted was that he had put \$500 in the budget for Parish Council budget. He reviewed the entire budget report. Fr. Tom said this budget was a goal and vision. Marcia asked if we were going to have the Hispanic College Scholarship next year, as we did this year, and Father said that needed to be put into the budget. It was \$1,000 this year, and the committee needs to discuss this.

Father asked what we wanted to do about Adult Religious Ed. – would we like to get a Mission, or a Retreat or Catholic speaker come to our parish. Liz said that in an email from Louisa, regarding the Catholic Learning Committee, she said she felt it should be a main goal to let adults know that religious education is lifelong, and to increase their motivation to participate in adult education. Discussion on what to do about this followed.

Council will have to vote a yes or no in January or February on proposed budgets for programming items. Fr. Tom was to review with staff this budget and get any changes to him and Rex about a week before the next meeting (which is on Jan. 10<sup>th</sup>). The revised budget would then be presented at the January Pastoral Council Meeting for vote.

Maria Pena Taylor stated that the Hispanic Young Adults would like some money budgeted for them. It was noted that YAM has money budgeted for them, that this HYA could fall under that same budget allotment or be granted a budget. Fr. Tom asked Maria to ask them to present projects to him for the coming year, by the end of the month. He said he would email Rex and Chris and Maria with the changes to the proposed budget.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20AM, with a closing prayer led by Chip Studwell.

**Epiphany Party: Jan. 9, 2009**

**Next Meeting: Jan. 10, 2009**

Respectfully submitted by

Liz McDavid  
P.C. Secretary