

St. Pius X Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Attendance: Fr. Tom Farrell, Fr. Andy Kysely, Karen Dickrell, Tim Poremba, Brian Schwartz, Chris Sitzmann, Jean Coffey, Leon Thiel, Val Revnew, Lynn Zinkgraf (trustee), Mary Mares, Bill Rogers, Sandy Rogers (record keeper for this meeting), Annual Organizational Gathering attendance (2nd half of meeting): Rob Sims, Brian Kubiak, Sister Shawn Fagan, Marie Ruffner, Bob Seymour

Absent: Rick Ossanna

General Notes:

- The August meeting minutes were approved and will be posted on the SPX website
- The annual parish meeting will be held on Sunday, October 25th at 9:30 a.m.
 - Action: Karen will contact Debbie Thorson to insure there is an announcement in the upcoming bulletin(s)
- Fr. Tom and Fr. Andy have invited the Parish Pastoral Council and the Finance Council to the rectory on Tuesday, October 27th for a potluck dinner (bring a dish to pass) beginning at 6:00 p.m. (spouses are invited to attend (change from August meeting minutes)). After the dinner gathering, the monthly Parish Pastoral Council meeting will be held at the rectory.
 - Action: All - Please RSVP number of attendees to Debbie Thorson by October 20th.
- The revised St. Pius X webpage continues to be developed by Susan Fassbender. It was discussed that having the bulletins on-line are very helpful.
 - Action: All – please take some time to look at the website so that more feedback can be provided to Susan
- It is encouraged to attend a diocesan sponsored leadership training/workshop. Registration forms are available at www.gbdioc.org (keyword search: fall leadership)
- A picture of the Parish Pastoral Council was taken at the conclusion of our meeting

Pastor Report:

- A pro-life march from St. Pius X to the abortion clinic will be held on Saturday, October 31 and is scheduled to begin after the conclusion of morning mass. The attendance at the event last year had a great turnout of 400-500 people.
- A full day bus trip to visit Mundelein Seminary and Rosary Hill has been scheduled for Wednesday, October 28th. There is still space on the bus for anyone interested in attending.
- Fr. Andy provided details on an opportunity to have Tatiana Cameron (former Croatian pop-star) perform at St. Pius X on December 19th at 7:00 p.m. for an Advent evening of reflection concert. The parish is asked to supply housing/meals and publicize in the bulletin in return for the free-will concert. To obtain the desired attendance of >300 people, promotional support for the concert (radio station, color flyer inserts for bulletins, etc) will be done by Cameron Productions. Go to: www.idobelieve.com for additional information and Tatiana's story. The Parish Pastoral Council members all were excited about this opportunity.

Liaison Reports:

- Post meeting update: Leon Thiel offered to be the liaison for the Social Concerns/Respect Life Committee and Rob Sims offered to be the liaison for the Youth committee.

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- There remains an opening for the Parishfest coordinator position. Jeff Wydeven is willing to co-chair for 2010 if necessary for training purposes. Planning for the Parishfest typically begins in January, so details on how to fill this position will be developed (personal invitation, presentation at mass, etc).
 - Action: Mary Mares will request that Jeff write up a job description (role/responsibilities) to help the parishioners understand the job details and time commitment
- There is still a need to have youth representation on the Parish Pastoral Council.
 - Action: Tim Poremba offered to invite some confirmation candidates to join the Parish Pastoral Council
- Trustees – nothing to report
- All other updates were provided in the annual organizational gathering

Annual Organizational Gathering (report outs from team leaders):

Social Concerns/Respect Life (presented by Brian Kubiak):

- Current Goals: To be more visible in the St. Pius X parish and engage others to be active in the community
 - Thought to aid in this effort provided: put visions/efforts of the committees on the website which is currently being redesigned
- Monthly donations of \$2600 are given to community programs that are in line with the vision of the committee
- Pro-life march scheduled for Oct 31st. A beautiful Eucharistic canopy has been built in support of this effort
- Blood Drive
- 40 Days for Life

Volunteer Coordinator (presented by Sister Shawn)

- Goal: Involve parish members in volunteering opportunities
 - Current need: more greeters
- Newcomer introductions with personal invitations for involvement
- Updates database with parish members and volunteer desires
 - Action: A refresh of the committee members is needed
- Provides scheduling/training for Eucharistic ministers, greeters, etc
- Giving tree → still an active project that Sister Shawn has trained others to coordinate

Stewardship Committee (presented by Sister Shawn)

- Name tag project is off to a great start (>800 name tag requests!). Implementation is planned for the weekend of Oct 3rd and 4th.
- Children's stewardship program
 - Actions: Sister Shawn is planning to "retrain" the 1st-5th grade students on the envelopes/10% giving
 - Parish Pastoral Council feedback: It is desired to reevaluate how the children's collection money is being used so that the children can understand how their giving is being used. Some initial concepts are to use this money for Children's Social Concerns/Respect Life or work towards some child related church improvement (statue of Jesus holding a child, etc)

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- Parish Resource Center
 - Currently not being used as much as desired so Sister Shawn is planning a display of Advent related media to be displayed in the Narthex during Advent
- Further details on the activities of the Stewardship Committee were prepared by John Petit and read to the Parish Pastoral Council by Karen Dickrell

Liturgy/Music (presented by Marie Ruffner)

- Schedules cantors/accompanists/choirs for weekly masses and is an active accompanist
- Develops programs for special services (Easter, Advent, Christmas, memorial mass)
- Wedding/funerals
- Marie is beginning to work on liturgy/music changes associated with November 2010 revisions that will include priest prayers, parishioner responses, and music/words

Technology/Communication (presented by Bob Seymour)

- Mission: Enhance/improve communications of ongoing parish activities
- Short term goals:
 - Screens in the Narthex areas to display messages, announcements, meeting locations, etc. are being discussed
 - Fr. Tom indicated he is already seeing value of the projector in the N. Narthex for movie projections, etc.
 - E-mail distribution list for broad/fast/inexpensive communications
- Long term goals:
 - Streamline of St. Pius X mass on the web for homebound, military, etc.
 - Display screens for music/readings
 - Fr. Tom cautioned that we need to insure that this type of activity is not viewed as being too commercial
- Bob requested feedback on how to gain approval for items: Answer: Contact Chuck Agnew first and if he feels it is an item that should be sent to Parish Pastoral Council for approval, he will direct the committees as such

Total Board of Catholic Education (document provided by Kaethi Schommer)

- Details on the activities of the TBCE were prepared in advance of the meeting by Kaethi Schommer and read to the Parish Pastoral Council by Karen Dickrell
- Note: More catechists are still needed for the 4:15 timeslots. It is recognized that while this is the most popular time for students (immediately after school), it is also the most difficult time to fill because adults may still be within work hours

Conclusion:

Father Tom, Father Andy and the Parish Pastoral Council provided a HEARTFELT THANK YOU to all committee leaders and their team members for providing such wonderful stewardship services to the St. Pius X parish community.