

St. Pius X Parish Council Meeting  
Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Present – Mary Mares, Brian Schwartz, Karen Dickrell, Jean Coffey, Rick Ossanna, Carly Riedl, Tim Poremba, Bill Rogers, Sandy Rogers, Lynn Zinkgraf, Rob Sims, Fr. Andy and Fr. Tom.

Absent – Leon Thiel, Chris Sitzmann and Val Revnew

General Notes:

- John Reilly, a member of St. Pius X parish, was in attendance to brief the council on Assembly Bill 453, which, if passed, would remove the statute of limitations for child sexual abuse cases and permit suits, no matter how old, to be brought to court. John has asked us to contact our state representatives and urge them to oppose the bill because it is unfair in its treatment of public and private institutions. For more information go to [www.wisconsinatholic.org](http://www.wisconsinatholic.org).
- December minutes were approved with slight spelling and capitalization corrections.

Pastor Report:

- Father Tom reported that his recent trip to Washington D.C. for the March for Life was an amazing experience. It was great to see so many young people marching.
- Father Tom and Sister Shawn will both be participating in the next CHIRP session. They're hoping to get more people involved.
- The Bishop's Appeal will be introduced to the parish the weekend of February 14<sup>th</sup>. Our parish goal is over \$100,000. If we don't meet that goal the balance will come out of our budget. St. Pius X has 60 parishioners in the Crozier Society (people who donate \$500 or more to the Bishop's Appeal) which ranks us 3<sup>rd</sup> in terms of number of parishioners in the society.
- Catholic Schools week starts next week so there will be ACES students participating in all the masses.
- Mary Mares was approached by a parishioner who was offended by the painting depicted on the cover of our weekly bulletin. The parishioner thought it to be a bit risqué. Father Tom said that the bulletin is done by a national company but we do have the ability to replace the cover art with something of our choosing. He will make a note and ask that the office look ahead prior to the bulletin being printed to monitor the content.
- Father Andy reported that the December concert featuring Tatiana was a huge success with somewhere between 500 to 600 people in attendance. The parish was very welcoming as well to her family.

## Liaison Reports:

- Social Concerns report via email from Leon who attended their last meeting. The committee, at the request of Deacon Rick, voted to disburse monies to fund a new Grief Ministry and for a parish family who has incurred large medical expenses. The committee will be reviewing the monthly disbursements at their next meeting to be held on Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.
- Technology Committee – Rick Ossanna reported that the group has become very active and they are continuing to work on improving communication of information to the parishioners. Monitors have been mounted at the entrances to the narthex with information as to parish activities, etc. The large screen in the east narthex was used this past weekend to show the “Catholics Come Home” video clips. Work is also ongoing to our website to make access to information easier.
- Total Board Catholic Education – Tim Poremba reported that it will be difficult for him to make their meetings. Rick O. will check with the religious ed office to get an update and to find out their next meeting date.
- Liturgy Committee – Jean Coffey spoke to Marie Ruffner. The committee will be meeting next week to start planning the Lenten liturgies. Father Tom said that there will be less music and more reflection time during Lent.
- Parish Fest – Mary Mares reported that the committee has not yet begun to meet again this year. She will email the outgoing chair, Jeff Wydeven, and ask him to speak at all the masses – sometime after February 14<sup>th</sup>. She also suggested that Father Tom, Father Andy, Deacon Rick and Chuck Agnew might be able to come up with names of potential candidates to lead the Parish Fest Committee.
- Building & Grounds – Mary Mares had no report.
- Stewardship – Brian Schwartz reported that John Petit was at a training session tonight for the Catholics Come Home program. John will then be able to train greeters, ushers, etc. There will be a need for current parish members to become mentors/partners with those coming back to the church. Deacon Rick is possibly looking to the CHIRP Committee to handle this aspect of the program.
- Youth – Tim Poremba provided some names of possible youth reps and Karen is in the process of contacting them. Carly Riedl joined us tonight. Carly is a junior at Xavier.

## New Business:

- A discussion was held as to the possibility of selling Scrip before and/or after weekend masses. Volunteers would be needed along with initial seed money to get started. Father Tom and Jean Coffey will approach Sister Shawn and get her input on this idea along with some possible names of parishioners to be in charge.
- A discussion was held as to the outreach to parishioners during these difficult economic times. It was reported that Deacon Rick has been reaching out to those in need – meeting with people on a weekly basis and requesting funds from the Social Concerns committee. Father Tom reported some parishes have a small food pantry at the church that is stocked through donations and reverse collections. Is there a need for a pantry at St. Pius or does St. Joseph Food Pantry fulfill that need?
- Karen asked if there was any feedback that members would like to share regarding the diocesan workshops that were attended in the fall. Brian Schwartz reported that we should be reviewing our mission statement every year. Sandy Rogers suggested that the mission statement should be succinct and precise so that people will remember it. Rob Sims suggested that a review of our mission statement would be a good topic for our mid-year review/retreat.
- The Sunday Coffee and Donuts schedule was passed around.
- Karen read an email from Val Revnew stating that she will be unable to finish out her term on the PPC as she and her husband are expecting their first child in May (congrats)! There will be then be 4 positions to fill as Karen, Jean and Mary will have fulfilled their terms in May. We will also be in need of a trustee as Mark Kools will be done as well. Mary will head the nomination committee and will have information and instructions to hand out at our February meeting.
- A discussion was held as to whether we should hold a mid-year review meeting. Father Tom suggested that we hold a retreat instead – possibly in Door County with Father Quinn. Father Tom will speak to Father Quinn about this idea and possible dates.
- Rob Sims mentioned that the lights in the expanded narthex always turn off during the 6pm mass on Sundays. It is our understanding that these lights are on a time system and perhaps it could be modified. Jean Coffey will speak to Bill Platt about changing the timers.
- Rob also suggested that we post the group picture of the PPC on the parish website. Mary Mares will email the picture to Susan Fassbender and ask that it be uploaded to the website.

Father Andy closed the meeting with a prayer.