

St. Francis de Sales
Parish Pastoral Council
Minutes from the Meeting of
February 23, 2010

In Attendance: Jean Flowers, Lynn Richardson, Mark Mauter, Martin Joyce, Karen Lutze, Deb Shelly, Kelleen Albert, Francie Hiebel, Jim Guinta, Matt Tanner, Steve Schorger, Tony Wright, Chris Lesch, Tonia Short, Marian Skeen, and Father Bob

Guests: None

Excused: Eric Wright, Luke Nutter, Sue Grindrod, Marilyn Messick, and Nancy Shonebarger

Absent: None

- The meeting began with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.
- The meeting was opened with a prayer by Jim Guinta.
- The Parish Council Mission Statement and Parish Mission Statement were read aloud by all present.
- The January 26, 2010 meeting minutes were approved by motion from Jean Flowers and Steve Schorger. After minutes approved, Chris found a spelling error and corrected it and Father Bob mentioned two items that needed to be corrected.
- Role call by Secretary Chris Lesch

Pastor's report:

- *Hospital Ministry* – This is working out well with what Father Bob and Father Wilson put into place to take turns going on Tuesday and Thursday.
- *Stations of the Cross* – They will be in Johnson Hall.
- *Preschool Registration* – Registrations is going well.
- *Parish Finances* – Offertory is down about 6.4%. For income from all sources, we are down a little less than one percent. There is a proposal on the table at the Diocesan level to increase the Diocesan tax from 5% to 6%. We lost our United Way support of Catholic Social Services and this one percent increase is intended to help cover funding Catholic Social Services.
- *Adopt a Pew* – Currently we have collected about \$56,000. Our goal was \$65,000 and we still have pews to sell. We might exceed our goal and that would be great!

Committee Reports:

- *Communications* - None
- *Youth Ministry*- The Diocesan Youth Rally is the first weekend of March. There is Mass and Reconciliation. It is for grades 9-12. The price is \$85.00 and this includes lodging. We have seen an increase in more people coming to the meetings. The word is getting out. The Youth Ministry has a Super Bowl of Caring and received 100 boxes of stuff (food, clothing, etc.) that was given to St. Vincent DePaul.

- *Newark Catholic School Student Representative* – The blood drive went well.
- *Newark Catholic Report* – Fish fries have started back up. OGT testing is coming up. We got \$56,000 approved to repair the parking lot. There are 64 freshman registered for next year. We have raised \$860,000 in phase 1 of the Capital Campaign.
- *Liturgy* – The Liturgy Committee is involved with the Soup Suppers and the Stations of the Cross. They are putting together a Greeting Committee for the Masses.
- *Election Committee* – Names are coming in for nominations. For the Parish Council, we have five running; three in addition to two current Parish Council members running for reelection. For Newark Catholic, we need to fill two positions and so far we have two running and need three more. For the St. Francis School, we have four retiring and only one willing to rerun. We need six to seven names. We have gotten a list from Dr. Spain. The Election is the last week of April. Sample ballots will go out on April 22nd.
- *Parish Picnic* – Deb Shelly to call the Rotary on March 1. A memo was received from Deb Shelly saying we have reserved the Rotary Park for September 12th. This was our first choice.
- *Parish Festival* - A new 5Krun and family fun walk is being added. This has been approved by Father Bob and the city. This will be sponsored by the Festival Volunteers and the Newark Police Department. Planning is going well.
- *Welcome/Greeter Committee* – Father Bob has sent an e-mail to the Liturgy Committee indicating he would like to have the Greeter Committee up and running by the time we get back into the church.
- During the meeting we talked about the potential of not having an *Ecumenical Palm Sunday Mass* this year because the church is under construction and Father can't say five Masses in a day. Some local ministers have been in contact with Father Bob since the meeting and arrangements are being made for an Ecumenical service.

New Business:

- *What are we hearing in the Parish:*
 - a. Singing – Not a lot of participation during singing. We looked at several things. One item was the cantors don't always stand next to the microphone. Part of the problem of hearing everyone sing is the space we are worshipping in right now. Once we get back into the church, the acoustics will be better. Father will visit with the cantors about leading the congregation more. At the 8:00 a.m. Mass only one verse is sung during the recessional; it would be nice to sing a few more.
 - b. Students not getting ashes – It was mentioned that some parents said some students were upset for not getting ashes on Ash Wednesday. One reason why this didn't happen was we were already on late start after a very long snow break and by the time we got kids into the classes they were going

home again. There was no time to organize a Mass at that point. As a side note, Father cannot say five Masses.

- *Volunteer Hours* – You will get volunteer hours for any board that you sit on. For those that don't complete their volunteer hours, they will be only charged for the hours not completed. Next month we will finalize what items count toward cost saving and what counts toward funds generated. The invoices of volunteer hours will be sent out in April.

Old Business

- *Mail Box location* – This is still being looked at. A suggestion was made to put it outside the church office.
- *Mission Statement Banner* – This will be looked at by Eric Wright.