

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help  
Pastoral Council Minutes  
September 2, 2008**

**Present:** Father Arnold, Father Larry, James Hunter, Bernie O'Neill, Judy DeCraene, Adam Novotny, Bill Glover, Lisa Sliker, Barb Smith, Chuck Steele, Jackie Pellegrino, Crissy Reid and Art Minadeo

**Absent/Excused:** Bill Sharp (could not attend but stopped in briefly to state that he would like to be the liaison between the Knights of Columbus and the Pastoral Council)

**Opening Prayer:** The opening prayer was given by Father Arnold.

**Minutes:** The June 3, 2008 Pastoral Council Minutes were reviewed and approved.

**Welcome New Council Members:** Introductions were made by new and old members.

**New for 2008!:** James introduced new procedures for 2008/2009 to help make the Council meetings run more efficiently. In a nut shell, status reports and new agenda items should be e-mailed to James 2 weeks prior to the upcoming meeting so that they can be included in the Agenda. The Agenda and the Minutes will be sent out prior to the meeting with adequate time for Council members to review the items and come to the meeting prepared with comments and questions. Status Reports will not be reviewed at the meeting unless time is requested. Council members should review the calendar on the website prior to the meeting for upcoming events. Minutes will be distributed to Council members within one week after the Council meeting for approval and changes. Once approved, they will be posted to the website. If there is an item that you do not wish to be made public, it must be approved by Fr. Arnold.

**Action Items:**

- **Parish Picnic:** Crissy reported that 218 people signed up for this event. The Knights of Columbus were extremely helpful with set up, preparation and serving of corn on the cob and crab soup and running the grill. Roch was in charge of the games which went well. However, the softball game was omitted because of the heat. Crissy stated the need for discussion about whether to provide the moon bounce in the future as we lacked volunteers to supervise the children and there was an added damage expense of \$375.00.
- **School Building Repair Update:** Father Arnold reported that OLPH School opened on time. However, there are still some punch list items to be addressed. He is planning a walk through for parishioners so he would like to have the hallways and stairways painted to improve the overall appearance. He is still waiting for the general contractor to provide the bill.
- **Parish Capital Campaign:** Bill reported that Fr. Arnold has asked him and Crissy to co-chair Campaign. The first meeting of the Leadership Team was held on 8/28/08 and was well attended. Bill stated that Fr. Arnold has hired a consulting group to keep us on track, to provide necessary training and to offer assistance throughout the process. The purpose of the meeting was to review the campaign and discuss the timetable. As a kick off to the Campaign, there will be a reception on 9/4/08 to thank those in the Parish who have given generously in the past. The plan is for Fr. Arnold to begin making visits to our most generous parishioners in September and October and then for selected advocates to follow suit in the late fall. The Campaign should last about 4 months.
- **Holy Works Fair:** Art reported that no date has yet been set. There is the possibility that we will have to change the event from the fall to the spring. Bill suggested that if the time of year is to change to the spring, we should note that in the bulletin now. Fr. Arnold suggested that the Council make recommendations, via e-mail, as to a date for the Holy Works Fair so that it can be secured before our next Council meeting. Art will check with Lynne regarding available dates.
- **Mass Time Discussion:** James reported that 437 families participated in the mass times survey and that the results were almost exactly 50/50 for the two options given. There was a definite interest in a Sunday evening mass. Fr. Arnold has spoken with Dana who is confident that she can get coverage for the music for the 5:00 Sunday mass. He has also spoken with Erin and Kristin who are willing to modify

the religious education program to coincide with the 5:00 mass. Father asked for feedback and/or suggestions from the Council on a final schedule.

- **Parish Communications/Marketing:** Lynne maintains the parish calendar on google. They are working on creating a computer calendar that will allow Ministers of the Word, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and altar servers to schedule convenient times to participate in the Mass.
- **Gym and Field Usage Guidelines:** Bill reported that he has been working with the archdiocesan lawyers to finalize an agreement for usage of the fields and gym. Fr. Arnold's feeling is that he'd like to avoid having outside groups use the facilities while we are in the throws of the Campaign because it would require additional responsibilities for the staff.
- **Fall Festival/Turkey Dinner Status:** Ted Gettinger is the coordinator. He is looking for someone to coordinate the sale of raffle tickets. Bernie volunteered.
- **Jacob Michael Stork Memorial:** There was a dedication and blessing on August 9<sup>th</sup>.
- **St. Veronica-OLPH Parish Partnership Celebration:** A date has not yet been set for St. Veronica's to visit us.

#### **Committee Reports:**

- **Finance Committee:** Chuck reported that there are six people on the committee. They meet the Friday morning before the Pastoral Council meeting. The budget for 2009 is finalized. They are presently working on a format for communicating with parishioners via the bulletin. They are also looking into options for enabling parishioners to electronically transfer funds.
- **Maintenance Committee:** James asked for a volunteer to report the progress of the Maintenance Committee to the Council. Lisa volunteered and was advised that Patty Babcock and Sue Steele would be her two contacts.
- **Welcome Committee:** Barb reported that two mailings were sent out this summer. Lisa reported that our sponsors are giving us very positive feedback from our new parishioners about the packet that they received. She also spoke of the committee's concern that those registering on-line must also register on paper.

#### **New Business:**

- **Archdiocesan Haiti Gala:** Fr. Larry stated that the Gala is scheduled for November 8<sup>th</sup> at The Hunt Valley Marriott. We discussed once again preparing a basket of cheer to be raffled off at the Gala and it was asked that everyone donate an item for the basket.
- **Council Linkage with other Parish Organizations:** James discussed the need to have a liaison/communication between the following organizations and the Pastoral Council and asked for volunteers.

**School Board** – Jackie Pellegrino  
**Angel Sports** – James Hunter  
**Knights of Columbus** – Bill Sharp

- **Fundraising Review Committee:** table until next month.

**Installation of Pastoral Council:** No date set as of yet. James will follow up with Lynne to determine a date.

#### **Open Forum:**

- Bill made note that the bulletin needs to be updated with the names of the new Pastoral Council members. James will follow up with Lynne.

- Fr. Arnold reported that Evelyn Henderson has created a design for a new sign for the main entrance of the campus. The sign will have space for three message lines. A parishioner has offered to pay for part of the sign.

**Pastoral Ponderances:** Fr. Arnold welcomed our new members again and spoke of our mission as a Council.

**Closing Prayer:** Fr. Larry provided the closing prayer.