

Monday, January 11, 2010
Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

Opening Prayer: Bill Harrison

Present: Father Bill, Phyllis Baker, Pam Casserly, John Cole, Kevin Dean, Bill Harrison, Roger Malone, Mike Mastro, Eileen Papson, Marilyn Wickel

Reflection:

10 Signs of a Vibrant Parish. The statement “Collegial leadership is practiced” was the topic. It was discussed that the good response to the parish directory demonstrated interaction between leaders and the parishioners. Other interactions are: Town Meetings, Vitality Coffees, and annual Picnic.

Committee Meeting:

- Earl Roberts from Connxions was present and updated the council on this committee. Information on numbers of new parishioners in the past 6 years was presented, including the percentage of those who are still active and who are inactive.
- The Vitality Coffees are opportunities for people to gather and opportunities for each committee to share information about what they do.
- The January 17th Vitality Coffee will be hosted by Religious Education. They will speak at the mass, wear nametags to identify themselves at the coffee, and hand out information.
- The March Vitality Coffee can be hosted by Pastoral Council and can serve as a commencement for the new membership campaign.
- Companion volunteers (to be companions for new parishioners for their first year) will be matched up with all 12 new (2009) parish families by the middle of January. More volunteers are still needed. Members of Connxions: Jim DeVito, Pam Casserly, Cathy McVicker, Diane Lenhart.
- A new brochure has been developed for Connxions. An Invitational video is given to new parishioners and they are asked to pass it along to friends and neighbors after they view it.
- There was discussion about the possibility of an exit survey to get feedback on why parishioners are leaving the parish.

Old and Continuing Items of Business:

- The brochure for Pastoral Council will be updated along with the bulletin board in the narthex and Council information on the website.

- There was a discussion on the long term vision for the parish and incorporating communication between committees and the Pastoral Council revolving around the 5 year plan. Incorporating the theme of “All Are Welcome Here” was also discussed.
- It is the job of Pastoral Council liaison to provide the committee head with the appropriate section of the 5 year plan pertaining to that committee and ask them to update the Council on how the committee is meeting the five year plan.
- Property Management Committee will be represented at the February 20th meeting.

New Items of Business:

- A subcommittee was formed to review the 5 year plan. Members are: Bill Harrison, Father Bill, Marilyn Wickel, and Kevin.
- The Pastoral Council responsibilities of the 5 year plan need to be addressed.

Pastor’s Corner:

- Father Bill shared copies of an excerpt of the book The Future Church by John L. Allen Jr.: “Evangelical Catholicism”.
- Father Bill also shared articles from The Catholic Spirit: “Priest at Heart, Seminarian’s faith journey influenced by Eucharist”, and “Poverty, empowerment intersect over cups of tea”.

Closing Prayer: Bill Harrison

Next Meeting: Saturday, February 20, 2010, 8:30 AM