

MINUTES OF THE IHM PASTORAL COUNCIL

October 28, 2008

7:30 p.m. – Church Basement

In attendance: John Abreu, Rich Banasiak, Jeanne Cleary, Msgr. Sean Cunneen, Tracey Foley, Lee Gillingham, Chris Haight, Fr. Tony Kuizon, Margaret Lewis, Kathy Mitchell, Peter Nizner, John Ponterio, Louise Timko

1. Opening prayer/sharing – Lee Gillingham presented Francis Thompson and his poem *The Hound of Heaven* .
2. Update by Committee on Council By-laws – John Ponterio
John looked up by-laws from other parishes to use as “template” for ours; took what he felt was the best from each to come up with:
 - A. Purposes
 - Support parish groups and activities
 - Support mission statement
 - B. Membership: 12-15 members
Sidebar – should youth ministry become part of Working Committee? In the future, yes!
 - C. Terms:
 - Staggered – 3 years for initial group; ½ change after 3 years, 2nd half change after 4 years; 3 year terms going forward
 - Term – September through June
 - No more than 2 consecutive terms – chosen by Working Committee in April; new members invited to attend May and June meetings.
 - D. Roles of Chairperson – works with pastor to set agenda; encourage participation. 2 year term.
Vice Chairperson and Secretary
 - E. Member responsibility – report periodically to Working Committee as well as to parish at large (pulpit announcements, bulletin, website)

Committee (John P, John A and Jeanne) will take our suggestions and put together a comprehensive document for our next meeting.

Jeanne to put together a flyer with bullet points about Pastoral Council for bulletin and website.

3. Continued discussion concerning Parish Mission Statement – Some ideas, in addition to what has already been presented:

Spreading God's Word by welcoming God's children
Sharing our faith in Christ through Mary
We the parish community of Immaculate Heart of Mary

Evolved into:

Called to live our faith in Christ, through Mary, we reach out to all through service and prayer.

Next Meeting – Tuesday, November 25 7:30 PM – John Abreu will lead prayer and sharing. No meeting in December unless we decide otherwise.