

MINUTES
PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING
March 22, 2011
7:30 p.m. – Church Basement

In attendance: Fr. Sean, Fr. Tony, Regina O' Connor, Janice Loop, Chris Haight, John Abreu, Lee Gillingham, Louise Timko, Margaret Lewis, John Ponterio, Kathy Mitchell, Peter Nizner, Maryann Mulrooney, Denise Rogers

1. Welcoming new members – overview of Pastoral Council
 - The new Coordinators and Secretaries from the Evangelization, Service, and Worship Committees joined the Pastoral Council.

2. Opening prayer/sharing – John Ponterio
 - John shared a reflection on Laura Hillenbrand's book Unbroken, the story of Louis Zamperini, an Olympian and WWII prisoner of war, and how he found God and forgiveness.

3. Cluster Updates –
 - a. Service – Laura Gartman/Pam Bonadies
 - Kathy Mitchell reported that the Service cluster is hosting the Lenten Blood Drive on 3/27 and collecting Easter Baskets for Plainfield's Food Pantry on Palm Sunday.
Fr. Tony added that the cluster has asked each ministry group Coordinator to compile a binder for their ministry. The binders will be a "playbook" which will be passed on to future Coordinators to ease the transition of leadership.
 - b. Evangelization – Regina O'Connor/Janice Loop
 - Regina reported that the Evangelization cluster is coordinating the scheduling of announcement readers at weekend Masses (please encourage your ministry group members to contact Regina to be added to the list of Parish announcement readers), serving refreshments at Evangelization events, and preparing the booklet for Holy Week and Easter.
 - c. Worship - Denise Rogers/Maryann Mulrooney
 - Denise reported that the Worship cluster is forming a new Decorations group, preparing for the Anointing Mass, Holy Week, and Easter, as well as New Minister Training on April 4th. Beginning on Palm Sunday, the Ushers will begin to wear name tags so they are easily identified at Mass.

4. Adoption of changes to By Laws
 - a. Meetings – from 8 per year to 5 per year
 - b. Agenda – cut time for opening prayer/sharing segment of meeting from 30 minutes to 15-20 minutes
 - The By Law revision was adopted 3/22/11. An electronic copy will be distributed.

5. Review of current Goal/Objectives

a. Goal: **Strengthen the parish community by increasing participation in the weekend liturgies and in our ministries.**

- There was a discussion about establishing a measurement to evaluate progress against the goal (e.g., have current attendees of Mass increased their participation by joining a ministry, praying the rosary after Saturday morning Mass, taking part in a novena, stopping downstairs for Fellowship Sunday; have “non-attendees” started to return to Mass? Are returning “non-attendees” becoming active?)
- For May’s meeting, identify what we’ve done toward accomplishing our goal and what are the results.

b. Objectives - Updates:

- i. Booklet of parish ministries/Parish directory
 1. Corrections to proofs sent back to Lifetouch
 2. Next step to receive proof back from Lifetouch with corrections – once approved goes to publishing
 3. Booklet expected possibly by May
- ii. Fellowship Sunday
 1. Evaluation – Service Committee now handles coordination – so far so good
 2. Next one – Easter Sunday – Evangelization Committee
 3. Since May’s Fellowship Sunday falls on Mother’s Day, it was recommended that the hosts for the day be all men.
- iii. New Translation to Roman Missal - John Abreu
 1. Initial informal education effort underway – bulletin insert and messages, links to US Bishop’s website on Parish Home Page.
 2. Consider formal education program as November draws near – Pages in the Pews, Sunday afternoon/evening Workshop, Renew-like program, message from the Pulpit
- iv. Fiesta – earlier initial planning meeting – currently scheduled for 5/16
 1. Identify at the April Working Committee meeting how much support will be available to host the Fiesta on July 2nd to determine the nature/scale of the celebration
- v. Survey – needs of parish
 1. Each committee will present questions to be included in the survey which will help with framing future goals.

6. Next Meeting – May 24, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. – Lee Gillingham to lead prayer/sharing.