

Holy Family Parish Pastoral Council Minutes

December 6, 2009

Attendees: Frank Tenaglia, Mary Leahy, Katy Horgan, Kevin Williams, Tom Murray, Father Bryan Parrish, Father Sean Maher, Katy Horgan, Jenny Driscoll, Ann Mickells, Dominique Mathieu, Claudette Powers, Elena Zongrone, Neal Doherty

I. Review of November Meeting minutes - approved by council members

II. Father Bryan Discussion Points

- A. Neal Doherty was a recipient of the Cheverus Medal 2 weeks ago at the Cathedral in South Boston to honor him for all of his contributions to the parish. Holy Family parish is very proud of him and grateful for all of his efforts in behalf of the parish.
- B. The pre-Thanksgiving Day football game mass and dinner was well received and had an excellent turnout. Coach Dave Maimaron would like to make it an annual event. Father Sean did the homily. Parents of the senior players served the dinner. Much goodwill was created between the football players and their organization, the school and the parish.
- C. Several parishioners have suggested having the chapel open at least once a month for 24 hours Eucharistic Adoration (maybe on First Friday of the month?) an aim would be to keep the church open for all parishioners at all times. This would be something that would need to be coordinated and scheduled – another ministry created?

III. Review of upcoming Holiday Events

- A. ASP will be holding the Xmas pew/parking raffle.
- B. Decorations for downstairs will be conducted by CCF and the religious ed classes. Also, Footprints participated at their December meeting.
- C. Andrea Heinstadt will be getting the flowers, decorations and poinsettias for distribution by the Parish Council to families of recently deceased parishioners. The deliveries should be done the weekend before Christmas. Father Bryan will consult with Kristen McArdle about how the list is generated.

IV. Update on Parish Ministry Questionnaire

- A. Jenny and Katy will wait until all the forms are returned before they start compiling the ministry booklet for distribution to the parishioners.
- B. Ann Mickells filled out all of her forms. They are currently in a file with Kristen McArdle is other council members finish and want to turn them in to a central location. (Ann investigated WORSHIP ministries and discovered that Cursillo and Ultreya no longer existed and that the ushers needed a new leader.

- C. Process has been helpful to awaken certain ministries. Perhaps with some contact there will be a renewed interest and awareness of the ministry. Obviously, that is the ultimate goal of the project – to allow more parishioners get involved in the life of the parish. Other goals: welcoming of new parishioners (currently happens through a sacrament), evangelization, processing the ministries. In the future we will discuss how to get more parishioners involved (ie, letter from pastor, stewardship fair, outreach, etc). Father Bryan also wondered if we should be doing some of these things as a cluster. RCIA is being done this year collaboratively with our cluster of local parishes. Also, Miramar has services and opportunities to be offered.
- D. Pastoral Council members are urged to finish their research by the end of January.

V. Update on Parish Directory

A debate ensued about whether the new parish directory for parishioner members should only be by name or should include photos. Some felt that the effort and time to do a photo directory could be better channeled somewhere else right now. Also, privacy issues were addressed. Others felt it was a fun, community building publication. Overall, it was decided that there was value in the project but would not be on the front burner right now. Most importantly, our job will be to organize a better “Welcoming New/Inactive Parishioners” committee.

VI. Miscellaneous

*Dominique Mathieu updated all on the confirmation retreat. He noted that it was a great setting and that the participants and leaders were all wonderful and engaged. Deacon Dan Burns conducted the liturgy. It included 70-80 young adults and this would be a good pool to draw from for future youth leadership.

*Claudette Powers noted the Prayer Shawl ministry run by Anna Ducharme was working with the Amaryllis Foundation in Marshfield to provide shawls that have been prayed over by the knitters for sick people. There are currently 16 members. They also distribute their shawls in local nursing homes.

*Jenny Driscoll discussed the Connected Catholic Families bake sale and coat drive. She noted that the Plymouth Coalition for the homeless has a store on route 80 (thrift shop) that takes donations.

*Katy Horgan discussed the \$400 raised by CCF at their bake sale to be given to supporting the Giving Tree project.

*Neal Doherty said that ARISE has wrapped up for the first half of the year’s season. The focus this segment was Social Action and all the groups did a project (ie supporting local cafeteria workers’ benefits, Edith Stein house, My Brother’s Keeper ministry). He was pleased that Father Sean had attended some meetings. He noted that the groups seemed to be becoming much closer. Next January there will be a liturgy and a potluck for all of the participants. He said it is a blessing to be able to talk about faith with other Catholics. Frank Tenaglia noted that he is part of a couples group that recently welcomed 2 more couples. Some in the group would be renewing their vows this week.

*Mary Leahy updated Council on success of new Book Club – reading “The Book of Hours” by Thomas Merton this month on the 17th. ALL welcome.

*Father Sean happily celebrated his first wedding at the parish

*Frank Tenaglia said that ASP had a capacity of 77 people going to 2 different locations on July 11th. Fundraising will be through the Christmas pew/parking raffle and Super Bowl Sunday pizza sale.

*Tom Murray noted that other churches have suggestion boxes for the parish council and pastor. Maybe we should do this here?

* The next meeting will be Sunday, January 3rd at 7pm in the Herrick Room.