



MINUTES

Parish Pastoral Council

Meeting Date: February 7, 2011

Present: Fr. Bellenoit, Fr. Destin; Deacon Zeich; Mmes. Bach, Crowley, Fitzpatrick, McTague, and Tormey; Messrs. Daly, Perkins, Regan, and Sozanski.

1. We were lead in an opening prayer by Barbara Fitzpatrick
2. The minutes for the November 15th meeting were accepted.
3. Fr. Bellenoit described his discussions with the Finance Committee to address maintenance needed in the main parish worship space:
 - The roof leaks into the sanctuary apparently under the steeple.
 - Pews lack structural integrity and require replacement.
 - Flooring under the pews should be replaced at the same time.
 - Carpets in the sanctuary, nave, and transept are worn and require replacement

In addition to this maintenance work, the Finance Committee discussed other projects that Fr. Bellenoit characterized as a “dream list:”

- Ambo should be enhanced.
- Restrooms should be relocated from behind the altar.
- Vestment cases in the sacristy should be replaced.
- Wooden backdrop behind the altar should be replaced.

The latter group of projects would require architectural advice and all will require displacing parish worship to an alternative site, most likely the Chapel of Our Lady of the Highway or the Life Center. Work would be scheduled ideally from November through March when mass attendance is at a seasonal low.

Separate committees have been formed to study renovation options and to raise funds. The parish at large will have an opportunity to provide input during the planning process.

4. Regarding our Worship Goal (To achieve full and active participation in parish Eucharistic liturgies) and one of its corresponding objectives (Provide for Eucharist under the species of bread and wine at one or more liturgies each weekend beginning with Lent 2011.): Barbara Fitzpatrick reported that she consulted with Charles Salerno, who schedules extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist within the parish. Mr. Salerno had assured her that sufficient Eucharistic ministers would be available to provide Eucharist under both species for the 10:30 AM Sunday liturgy beginning the first week of Lent.
5. Regarding our Evangelization Goal (To develop new or to enhance existing programs of religious formation for adults) and a corresponding objective (Consult and coordinate with diocesan and deanery leadership by Lent 2011 to identify, adapt, and implement formation programs designed for the religious formation of adults.): Joseph Daly summarized his contact with Claire McManus regarding our adult faith formation initiative. Her email reply is copied below:

I am so happy to hear that SFX [sic] is exploring adult faith formation as a mission priority; it really is where we need to focus. Have you already explored what you consider to be your target group when it comes to adult formation? As you know, this is never a one size fits all prospect, and expensive "canned" programs, while good, are not always feasible when there are no financial resources. There are a few questions that you may want to ask while exploring ways to work with adults.

Age group--retired; young adult; parents of kids in the school/rel. ed program;
Do you want to form the evangelized or evangelize the loosely connected?
Do you want to do leadership training for those who are involved?
Are you looking for small group communities or big gatherings?

There are many strategies to consider, depending on your target audience.
Why don't you give me some background info and then I can point you in the right direction.
I'm so glad that you are heading up this committee, and I look forward to helping you in any way.
Claire

Claire M. McManus, S.T.L.
Director of Faith Formation
Diocese of Fall River

With respect to the objective (Collaborate with contiguous parishes to establish a consultative body to explore options to enhance religious formation for adults by Lent 2011): George Perkins summarized his discussions with Sr. Doyle from Our Lady of the Cape Parish and Frs. Lacroix and Fournier from St. Francis Xavier Parish concerning their experiences in adult faith formation as well as their interest in collaborating. Tentative members of a cross-parish consultative body for adult formation are Mrs. Patricia Clock (Our Lady of the Cape), Mr. Daniel Nunes (St. Francis Xavier), and George Perkins (St. Pius X).

In light of these objectives, Daly and Perkins agreed to respond to McManus and to articulate further steps toward enhancing parish adult faith formation opportunities and present these for discussion at the March 7 PPC meeting.

With respect to the objective (Build upon existing parish programs that encourage adult study of Scripture by Advent 2010.): Fr. Destin pointed out that the Diocesan Office of Faith Formation sponsors "Roots of Faith: A Basic Theological Overview of the Catholic Faith for All Adults." Two separate offerings from this program would be held at St. Pius X: "Scripture" on March 23 and 30 and "Jesus Christ" on April 6 and 13.

6. Two dates were set to present the Parish Mission Statement to members of parish ministries and to listen to how the PPC might facilitate these ministers in its implementation: March 20 (1:30-2:30 PM) and March 21 (7:00-8:00 PM). Michelle Crowley and Joseph Daly will redraft and send the letters of invitation to various ministry members. Maureen Bach will compose questions that could be used to stimulate discussion at both presentations.
7. Preparations for the Parish Assembly were discussed briefly.