

St. Mary on the Hill Catholic Church
Pastoral Council
April 29, 2009

Members Present: Fr. Jerry, Fr. Mark, Steve Givens, Rhee Fincher, Eric McArdle, Lisa Murray, Harmony Prestifilippo, Deacon Ken Maleck

Members absent: Deacon Al Sullivan, John Fisher, Rhonda Wallace, Jim Purcell, Alicia Ramage, Mike Hamilton

Fr. Mark opened the meeting with a reading from the Gospel followed by reflection.

Rhee pointed out that it is important that our Priests take good care of themselves in order to care for all the parishioners.

REPORTS-

Eric-

- Establishment of new School Commission
 - The school is currently under “Formation.”
 - There needs to be more direction at SMS.
 - Fr. Jerry and Eric believe we should establish a commission for the school that ties into our current organizational structure. Similar to the other commissions there would Pastoral Council member and a staff liaison.
 - The commission’s role and responsibilities need to be defined and have clear parameters in order to be effective.
 - Years ago, the school was being run almost as a separate entity and Msgr. Costigan, the pastor at that time, disbanded the school board and took control to refocus it as a parish school that provides a true Catholic education. Rhee pointed out that we need to understand the dynamics of what made the school “independent” back then in order to avoid getting into that position once again.
 - Fr Jerry’s belief is that the commission will need to have a clear and defined mission as well as good oversight.
 - Eric pointed out that the SMS principal would still answer to Fr. Jerry
 - The Diocese has been asking for a school board.
 - Curricular content would be still be overseen by the Diocesan Office of Catholic Education
 - Accreditation- SMS is currently accredited by SACS
 - The PTO would come under the School Commission
 - Need to establish a system for member rotation or renewal
 - Additional support and accountability for the school administration

- Steve, Harmony and Eric will meet and formulate roles and responsibilities for school board, and they will present it at the next Pastoral Council Meeting.

- Fr Jerry will have Melanie Bailey get a list of all commission leaders and a list of their terms.
- Eric announced his term as Pastoral Council President will come to an end in June 30, 2009

Fr. Jerry-

- The year of St. Paul ends in June
- A new Pastoral Focus is needed. Please be thinking of an idea.
 - Fr Jerry likes the idea of **Gratitude**, which was a topic of Mary Kelly's speech, at the Stewardship Conference in Atlanta.
 - We need to REJOICE in present blessings!

Rhee-

- Announced that she believes her time as the Stewardship Commission facilitator has come to an end. Eric commended her for a job well done.

Harmony-

- Posed the question from ministry leaders, "Why doesn't Fr. Jerry advertise ministries at Mass?" His response was that ministries are announced/advertised via lector announcements and bulletin announcements.
- Some of the ministry leaders would like to go back to having an annual Stewardship Fair in lieu of the ministry tables each month, which have previously been set up in the Narthex. However, they do not recommend this Fair be conjunction with the stewardship dinner.

Fr. Jerry closed the meeting in prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Murray