

St. Mary on the Hill Catholic Church
Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes
Oct. 26, 2009

Members Present: Fr. Jerry Ragan, Fr Mark Van Alstine, Jim Purcell, Lisa Murray, Deacon Ken Maleck, Deacon Al Sullivan, Katie Conner, Alicia Ramage, Mike Hamilton, Harmony Prestifilippo, Steve Givens, Eric McArdle

Absent- Rhee Fincher, Walter Moore

Fr. Jerry began the meeting with A Prayer of Gratitude and Reflection.

Mission Statement-

- Does it need to be revised? The Mission Statement was written about 15 years ago.
- Fr Jerry would like to add “A Catholic Faith Community” to the existing statement.
- Fr Jerry suggested that we look at our Mission Statement, post it in the church and focus on it.
- Each Commission at the School and Church needs to repeat the constant need to be mindful of our Pastoral Focus.

Pastoral Focus- GRATITUDE

- Fr Jerry reported that we have not been as involved with the Service Commission Projects as we were in the 90’s when we helped complete a Habitat House for Humanity.
- Father would love to see us get involved with the Fisher House.
- Please consider inviting a veteran to Wednesday Night Dinner on Wed., Nov.11.
- Katie suggested that we do a parish wide project on gratitude.
- Jim will ask the Service Commission to look for a place to put our ‘Year of Gratitude’ to work.
- Fr Jerry will email Harmony his suggestions.
- Deacon Al suggested promoting our Parish Mission Statement.
- Fr Jerry announced that the Prayer of Gratitude will be prayed before each Pastoral Council Meeting. As we meet with different commissions throughout the year, this will be our Pastoral Focus.

Stewardship Renewal-

- Steve reported that we do not have the numbers to make an accurate analysis of the correct number of pledges entered from last year’s Stewardship Renewal vs. the number of pledges entered this year (to date).
- Tommy Rose can run those numbers for us
- Steve Givens will give a 3 minute homily at each Mass for the Stewardship Renewal the weekend of Oct 31/ Nov 1.

- The Leadership Gathering is scheduled for Nov 3rd at 7pm.

SMS Commission-

- Eric gave an overview of the Teacher's Survey which was administered by Ruth Ann Vericella.
- The results reflect that Mr. Darr is very well liked by his staff and is admired as a Christian who shares his faith with others.
- Eric and Jim will get in touch with Sr Rose Mary Collins, who is with the Office of Catholic Education. They have been in communication with her, but have been unable to coordinate a meeting.
- Fr Jerry will have a conference call with Sr. Rose Mary to determine what processes need to be in place for assessment.

Gartland Award-

- Fr Jerry will need a list of possible recipients in April or May for the 2010 Award.

Fr Jerry's Surgery

- Fr Jerry announced he is scheduled to have Gastric Bypass Surgery on Nov 16th in at Lexington Medical Center in South Carolina and he will be out of commission for at least two weeks.
- He asked for prayer and he remains grateful for the support of his parish.

There will be no Pastoral Council meeting in November, but there will be a Pastoral Council Christmas party on December 29th. Details to follow.

Fr Jerry closed the meeting with prayer and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Murray