

## Pastoral Council Meeting November 26, 2012

**Attendees:** Katie Conner, Jennifer Bovitz, Steve Givens, Eric McArdle, Walter Moore, Ken Maleck, Martha Kearns, Fr. Jerry Ragan

**Excused:** Rhee Fincher and Jim Purcell

The meeting began at 5:30pm with prayer.

**100 Years of Catholic Education on the hill – John Scherer** Fr. Jerry introduced John Scherer, who will be heading up the committee for the celebration of 100 years of Catholic Education on the hill. John is a lifelong resident of Augusta and was in the first graduating class from St. Mary's School. This celebration is as much of a celebration for the Sisters of St. Joseph for their role in this parish, as anything else. They purchased the property on Monte Sano Avenue back in 1913.

John would like the theme for the celebration to be something like "In this year of faith, we celebrate a century of faith formation." To include the CCD program, as well as the school and Aquinas. He would like for us to collect memorabilia and run routine articles in the Marinate.

He is looking at October 2013 for the celebration. He will be forming a committee in January to get the ball rolling. This is a good opportunity to celebrate the Parish, the Sisters and the people who have been involved to make the sacrifices that have made this happen for over a century.

**Tuition – Fr. Jerry** The staff has recommended keeping tuition and registration the same and giving a discount for multiple student families. We want to do everything to make Catholic education as affordable as possible. Eric recommends nothing be done until the School Commission has made their recommendation.

**Balance between Catholic Education and Catholic Formation – Fr. Jerry** Catholic education helps with the leadership of the church in the future. How do we pass on the faith in a way that is vibrant and in a way that it grabs hold of people, in a way that leads Catholics to live their faith in everyday life? This is an important question, as we move forward and something for us to reflect on.

Fr. Jerry talks about the three strengths of the parish. First we are rooted in the Eucharist. A big part of that is Perpetual Adoration and good liturgies. Second we have a tradition of catholic education. The third strength is Stewardship as a way of life. All of these play a part to make us a strong vibrant parish.

**Service Commission – Walter Moore** Rich Dimenna will make an appointment with Father Jerry to discuss funding for Interfaith Hospitality. Habitat for Humanity is looking to partner with Wounded Warriors program, to come up with housing that is handicapped accessible.

Next meeting will be at Father Jerry's condo for a Christmas social, December 27 at 6pm.

**Congratulations to Rhee Fincher on winning the Flexner Award, she is the first woman to ever receive this award and the first and only Georgian to receive the award.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Kearns