

Pastoral Council Minutes
2/28/11
Parish Hall
5:04-6:00 PM

Attendees: Fr. Jerry Ragan, Katie Connor, Steve Givens, Ken Maleck, Mike Hamilton, Eric McArdle, Jim Purcell (Chair), Lisa Murray, Steve Givens, Rhee Fincher

Excused: Harmony Prestifilippo

Absent: Walt Moore

The meeting opened with prayer at 5:04 PM.

Serving the Master – Katie Connor

- Katie has been in touch with Sr. Mary Sintella in Ethiopia who works in a very poor orphan school (grades 1-4); most of the children have been orphaned because of AIDS, creating many families where children are the head of households
 - They need: School supplies, clothing, blankets, school uniforms, rent, adopt a class
 - SMOTH or SMS could adopt a class or school; spiritual adoption
- Katie will discuss this idea with the Service Commission; if they endorse, will ask the tithe committee to allocate some funding

New missel

- Do not have a diocesan plan for implementation; will be done by the deanery
- 10/19/2011 someone from World Library will be at SMOTH to acquaint all liturgical ministers with the changes; all parishes in the deanery

Bishops Annual Appeal (BAA)

- Letters regarding BAA have been distributed over several weeks; expect to receive a DVD from bishop for use at 3/13/11 mass

Immaculate Conception School

- Letter from Bishop Boland explicitly states that the IC school will “remain open for the immediate future”. After discussion, the Pastoral Council endorsed continuing SMOTH tithe as usual

Pastoral Focus – Strategic Planning ---

- Deacon Denis Corbin (TX) will be coming to help with strategic planning; Fr. Jerry would like more clarity in terms of strategic planning to expand on/implement the annual pastoral focus
- 3 baseline steps
 - Ten Leadership Practices for the Pastor

- Council members invited to add to list and give Fr. Jerry opinions about areas to which he should pay more attention
 - Software for enhanced communication
 - Mind Mapping is one example
 - Catholic Stewardship Consultants will demonstrate a system to Fr. Jerry tomorrow
 - Expect stewardship renewal to be electronic next year; ad hoc changes in ministries should also be feasible online
 - Five Basic Inquiry Questions – All members of the Council asked to send responses to Mary Davis electronically by 3/21/2011
- Fr. Jerry seeks guidance on fulfilling the focus of “serving the master”; identification of some strategies/initiatives for the Commissions; the purpose is not to micro-manage the ministries
 - Once the new Pastoral Focus has been identified, consider seeking input on strategies from a group larger than the Pastoral Council

Incorporation of Parish

- Jim recommends considering incorporation of all parishes in diocese; Fr. Jerry will discuss with the new bishop; if he is supportive, Jim will meet with other attorneys in the parish

The meeting adjourned at 6:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhee Fincher