

Pastoral Council Minutes
April 23, 2012
DRAFT 1

Attendees: Katie Conner, Rhee Fincher, Steve Givens, Mike Hamilton, Martha Kearns, Walt Moore, Fr. Jerry Ragan, Fr. Scott Winchel

The meeting opened with prayer at 5:33 PM.

From Maintenance to Mission – General discussion of chapters 1-4

- Chapter 1 – What are changes from Vatican II that you view as positive? More sense of “we” rather than “us and them”; more connected with congregation with Mass in English rather than Latin and turning around of altar; more focus on scripture, increased involvement of laity in leadership
- Chapter 2 – Do you believe that it is the call of all baptized Catholics to be missionaries?
- Chapter 3 – Do you agree that creating authentic, loving community is the major challenge of Christian living?
- Chapter 4 – How would your identity be different if you were not Catholic? Several testimonials – can’t imagine to wonderful “sameness” around world
- **Read Part 2 before next meeting**

Year of Faith Ideas – Begins 10/11/2012

- Hire part-time person for social media
- Service Commission: Discuss and propose an ecumenical service project – talk with Ann Arnold who runs Fisher House; consider joint project with Wounded Warriors and Fisher House
- Program to kick off Year of Faith – Consider Wednesday night dinner; procession to church; short program for beginning of Year of Faith
- Consider a local retreat during the year – for women and men at separate times to focus on faith formation and community building

100 Years of Catholic Education – School Commission

- Sisters of St. Joseph began Catholic education on hill in 1913
- Next School Commission – “Take ownership” of doing something to recognize the 100 years

Creating an Endowment Fund from Bond Collateral – Finance Commission

- Create parish endowment as protection for bond collateral (~\$3 M to pay off bond)
- Fr. Jerry reported that we have not spent all of our tithe fund for this year; some families that are faithful to stewardship feel they cannot afford tuition at Aquinas; deanery is disinclined to continued funding to Aquinas to help with school aid (SMOTH budgets some funds to help families with sustained need after aid from Aquinas exhausted). Fr. Jerry suggested using some of the unspent tithe to support families in need in meeting tuition costs

Stewardship + Consultants + Staff

- Steve Givens, Tommy Rose, Fr. Jerry, and staff had a productive meeting last week; SC has assumed role of oversight of commissions and will get away from that, working more on evangelization and outreach

- Fr. Jerry will be distributing a survey regarding commissions to explore questions including whether new leadership is needed, new members are needed, and/or a ministry has run its course and should be discontinued/combined
- Mission of commission will be broadened to include evangelization
- How to inform new members about stewardship

Fortnight for Freedom

- Consider a deanery vigil or rosary outside the courthouse – after dinner at Most Holy Trinity; Walt suggested this could be part of an ecumenical event. Secular humanism seems to be the new national religion (separation of church and state remains desirable with respect for all)

Fr. Jerry thanked Mike Hamilton for his faithful service – he moves to Alabama soon. The meeting adjourned at 6:35 PM.

Next meeting 5/21/2012.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhee Fincher