

PASTORAL COUNCIL

MAY 18, 2010

MINUTES

Attendance

Present: Connie Benko, Lou Corozzi, Linda Coxton, Father Ray Forester, Pat Hearn, Ed Holley, Cathleen Lutz, Jack Mulholland, Mary Jane Schanno, Deacon Jim Walls, Jim Walsh, Denise Westbrook, Bob Wolhar, Robert Frankenberry

Not Present: Deacon Dan Ackerson, Jon De Voll, Dan DiGuglielmo, Mindy Hete, Gerry Lore, Mary Theresa Morrison, Deacon Jerry Shaw

In the absence of Dan DiGuglielmo, Ed Holley called the meeting of the Pastoral Council to order at 7:00 p.m.

Connie Benko led the Council in the recitation of the 70th Anniversary Prayer. Connie then proceeded to acknowledge the authors of this prayer, Helen Miller and Deacon John Smith.

Approval of Minutes

Ed Holley noted that the following correction to the minutes should be made...The proposed strategic plan for the Building & Maintenance Committee, Strategy #8 should read, "Building & Maintenance Committee issues bi-monthly updates and progress reports to Public Affairs...". With this correction noted, Mary Jane Schanno made a motion to approve the minutes and Cathleen Lutz seconded the motion.

Pastor's Report

Father Ray shared with the Council a copy of a booklet entitled, "Understanding the Revised Mass Text" and said the New Roman Missal will offer a better translation of Latin into English. The Missal will be available for use by Advent of 2011. These changes will be the first since 1970. Various workshops will be offered to facilitate a better understanding of these changes.

Finance Council Report

Jack Mulholland reported that the Finance Council is on target with the budget. Ed requested that the Finance Council have additional information on budget line items for the June meeting.

Standing Committee Reports

Liturgy

Lou Corozzi reported that there will be a new format beginning the weekend of October 16-17. Lou went on to say that performing Baptisms as a part of the regular Sunday liturgy is being

discussed. It was also agreed that the Eucharistic Ministers should have a reserved pew clearly identified with a sign beginning in June. Additionally, extra bulletins will be placed in the Religious Education Building. This Sunday (May 22-23), as we continue to celebrate the Year of the Priest, a member of the Liturgy Committee will lead the congregation in a recitation of the "Prayer For Priests". Finally, Lou noted that the Summer Mass schedule has been widely disseminated and as in previous years, St. Edmond's will be offering a 9:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday at the Bay Center in Dewey Beach.

Christian Formation

Jim Walsh submitted a report reflecting the number of participants in the RCIA and Religious Education programs: 9 participants in the RCIA program, 230 in the Sunday morning Religious Education Program and within that program, 16 children received their First Holy Communion

Parish Outreach

Bob Wolhar briefed Council members on the activities of its various ministries: Good Samaritan served 11 parishioners over the last few months; Health/Visitation volunteers have maintained contact with a couple parishioners; Respect Life members were instrumental in the successful installation of a "Right to Life" billboard on Rt. 1. The "Right to Life" call list is being finalized and the Lewes March for Life had 60 walkers and 80 attendees. Bob went on to report that the Diocese Outreach Volunteer Mass & Dinner would be held May 19th in Newark. The Parish Outreach Committee will host the International Students Dinners on July 14th and August 14th.

Beginning in September, the Parish Outreach Committee will begin meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of each month (except during the summer months) at 6:30 p.m. With the September meeting, Bob Wolhar will assume the responsibility of committee chairperson.

Parish Family Life

In the absence of Mary Theresa Morrison, Mary Jane Schanno gave an update on family activities for our parishioners... April's Donut Sunday, the May Procession, and the annual parish picnic were well received.

Building & Maintenance

Ed Holley, committee chairperson, briefed the Pastoral Council on the status of its projects. The revamping of the heating and cooling systems in the church is moving ahead with a detailed design expected shortly. Additionally, a list of potential contractors for this project has been made available for bidding purposes. A contract was awarded for the power washing of the exterior walls of the Parish Office building as well as for the Educational Center. Windows will be cleaned, screens washed and venetian blinds damp dusted. The hand rails at the main entry to the Education Center and on the east side of the Lower Church will be painted. The awnings for the Rectory porch will also be installed.

Parish Communications

Gerry Lore, committee chairperson, submitted a report which highlighted the Team's most recent efforts. Of special note, the committee prepared and submitted press releases on various Parish events...Mass of Renewal of Marriage Vows, Respect Life ministry highway sign, a the summer Mass schedule. Due to a cooperative effort between the Lions Club of Rehoboth Beach and the Public Affairs Team, St. Edmond's has been selected to be featured in the 2010 Rehoboth Telephone Directory. The Public Affairs Team is presently preparing an outline for a new Parish Resource Directory. Finally, the parish historian is working with the Public Affairs Team to establish a parish library in the Education Building.

Affiliated Organizations:

Knights of Columbus and St. Vincent de Paul ...Monthly reports on the activities of these two organizations will be provided to the Council in the future.

LRAC...Pat Hearn reported that Wachovia Bank contributed \$25,000 towards refurbishing bicycles for our international students.

Most Blessed Sacrament School...Denise Westbrook noted that there would be a modest increase of \$150 in the annual tuition rate. There are a few openings next year in Pre-K, K, 1st, 3rd, & 5th grades. Mr. Mark Record is ending his first year as principal at MBS.

Lay Deanery

Father Ray reported that, after three years, it was decided to disband the Lay Deanery.

Old Business

Pastoral Council Elections...There were four openings on the Council and there were four candidates who expressed an interest in serving on the Council so an election was not necessary.

Summary of the 70th Anniversary Activities

Connie Benko summarized in a written report the highlights of various activities celebrating St. Edmond's 70th Anniversary which ran from September 2009 to May 2010. Ed requested that a copy of this report also be placed in the Parish Archives for future reference.

Activities:

1. Anniversary Prayer written and distributed
2. Anniversary Banner designed and hung for the year
3. Papal Blessing received – September 2009
4. Parish Photo Directory published
5. Parish Mission – October 18-21
6. Parish History Book and Oral History DVD published – November 8th
7. Bishop Malooly Parish Anniversary Mass – November 15th
8. Christmas Concert – December 13th
9. Family Mass/Youth Game Show – January 23rd
10. Presentation of the play, "Damien" – February 21st

11. Bus trip to Baltimore, MD to visit the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Assumption of BVM, Cathedral of Mary Our Queen – March 23rd
12. Dinner/Dance – Cancelled due to poor response
13. Renewal of Marriage Vows and Reception – May 16th

Family Life Strategic Plan

Mary Jane Schanno presented the first draft of the strategic plan for the Family Life Committee. Ed Holley reiterated the fact that there was no need for a separate “vision” statement. The overall vision statement for the Parish encompasses all of the ministries in some form or another. A statement of “purpose” at the beginning could be followed by a “goal” statement which would identify in general terms ways the committee hopes to achieve its purpose.

Ed went on to recommend that Strategy #2 should read words to the effect, “Conduct yearly planning in conjunction with the Pastoral Council, and prepare and maintain a calendar of events in advance.” Cathleen Lutz also recommended that these events be posted on the website.

For “Actions” related to Strategies #1-4, Denise Westbrook said the person ultimately responsible for the effectiveness of any action step is the committee chairperson with the support and cooperation of the committee members. It is not necessary to mention any individual’s name in any part of the strategic plan.

For “Evaluation” of all activities related to Strategies #1-4, the overall success or failure of any activity should be measured by immediate feedback from attendees, committee members, and members of the Pastoral Council. Feedback is critical to the evaluation process.

Ed also suggested that a member from the Youth Leadership Council serve on the Family Life Committee

Finally, Ed recommended that two additional strategies be added to the strategic plan:

#1 – Add a strategy that would create of succession plan for the position of committee chairperson.

#2 – Add a strategy that would tie in more directly with the YLC.

Ed reminded all committee chairpersons or their designated representatives to submit copies of their committee reports to the Pastoral Council prior to its scheduled meetings.

There being no further business, Jim led the Pastoral Council in a closing prayer and the meeting was subsequently adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Krzyzanowski
Recording Secretary