

**Mary Queen of the Holy Rosary
Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)
Approved Meeting Minutes –July 25, 2006**

The meeting started at 7:05pm with the Our Father and Hail Mary. In attendance were Fr. Joe, George Blandford, Paula Voborsky, Barb Ulaszek, Walter Leachman, John Mitchell, Mona Brown, Aaron Corley, Cindy Hellinger, Al Arbogast, Eileen O'Malley, Kabby Akers, Peggy Gabriel, Dan Burch, Ron Wedding, Leo Brown, Jeri Stromquist, Linda Keller, and Enid Timoney.

Others in attendance were: Lisa Powers (past PPC member), Ann Corley (past PPC member), Nancy Fister, Dolly VanDaniker, and Leonard Kaczmarek.

The April 2006 meeting minutes were not amended or approved since some members of the council did not receive the email copy. The April minutes will be amended and corrected if necessary at the August meeting.

PAC – Peggy Gabriel

We have been working on formation of Religious Formation handbook. Currently, we are on the fifth draft, and plan to schedule another review with a sub-committee of PAC and schedule a meeting with Fr. Joe. We will be meeting to discuss registration for the coming year.

Social Action – Kabby Akers

Catholic Action Center dinners are going well. We had an excellent response for new CAC volunteers during Time and Talent. The BUILD group is in the works on how to move forward and assemble a team.

Education/Formation – Paula Voborsky and Fr. Joe

Very busy getting ready for the fall.

Fr. Joe's Comments: Regarding any change in sacramental preparation, an announcement will be made before school begins. It will establish the Whole Community Model of Catechesis. There will be one parish education process for sacramental preparation. We will have one program where we are all together. We should not be divided into school/non-school programs. Our formation programs should focus on the parish and emphasize in word and in practice its unity. It is important that we teach everybody we are one parish.

In addition to the united sacramental program, we will be announcing that everyone is welcome to attend the Sunday classes and sessions, even those enrolled in our school. This will allow their parents the opportunity to attend on going formation programs. It is important to try to build a sense of community.

The most imminent sacramental preparation is First Penance. In the Whole Parish Catechesis Process, First Penance will be moved to the 1st grade. We want children to be involved in catechetical preparation as long as we can. Offering sacramental formation in the first and second grades gives greater incentive to families to have their children in the process for two years before First Communion.

The next big jump is that there is a tremendous movement in the United States and throughout the church that we do the sacramental formation more in conformity with the teaching of church and Canon Law. In the ancient tradition, First Eucharist follows Confirmation. I am in favor of restoring the Order of the Sacraments of Initiation. We could become a pilot parish that will have a tremendous impact in the next 2-3 years. Just the number of children to be prepared for Confirmation is amazing! This process is to be modeled on the RCIA program. This is the model we've been asked to follow not only by our own bishops but by the universal church. This is another reason that we put this piece of the puzzle, the unified sacramental preparation program, in place. Namely, that we do this as one parish, one community, since one is initiated into the Church by the parish.

The Confirmation process will be a 10 week series with parents/sponsors participating with the children. Again, it is modeled on the RCIA program, conducted as a whole parish community and not segregated. In the United States, there is some estimate that 30-50% of the adult population has not received the sacrament of Confirmation.

I understand that there will be conflicts with the sporting teams and other social activities. I can't control them, nor can we be controlled by them. I do understand that it is not going to make a lot of points especially with the school parents. Remember, up until Pius X, First Communion was between 12 and 14 and Confirmation preceded it. There must have been several people who got His Holiness' ear convinced him that children should receive Holy Communion at the age of reason, which is age 7. For many years, it was common that people were confirmed in the first three years of grammar school. Thus, to honor Pius X, we can not readily delay First Communion, nor can we ignore the ancient custom of the Church regarding the order in which one receives the Sacraments of Initiation. Specifically, the order is to be Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion.

Confirmation is not a rite of passage from childhood to adulthood in the Church. This interpretation was invented by people over the past one hundred years to explain what we were doing. Since the Council of Baltimore, there was an emphasis on the doctrine of limbo. For example, Limbo has fallen off the radar screen. It's funny how something that contradicts dogma, but is popular in the people's mind, survives. There are four last things: death, judgment, heaven and hell. How can we have a divine state of eternal separation from God? You're either in heaven or hell, there is no limbo. We do teach purgatory but it is temporary. But purgatory and limbo is not the same thing. It is important to see how there is in favor of doing this. There is the old excuse that we've always done it this way. There are two ways to be from original sin besides baptism, circumcision and a good act of contrition. Think beyond our scope of our own private experience. I am preparing for people to "hear." I am preparing the ground for the seed by putting a piece of the process in place so we can be getting ready for the big chunk when the bishop will grant us the his permission to restore the original order of the Sacraments of Initiation for our children.. For this year, we will bow to the reality that it will be a one year program. We want to see people in the formation program all the time. We need the parents. That is why we start them at age 2. Get into the habit of going every week. If we keep waiting and I allow the delay, then it will never happen.

Finance Council – Jeri Stromquist and Fr. Joe

The 2005/2006 total operating parish financials – first draft was a \$22K loss. The school came in at \$70K+, church \$99K-, and the priest house \$7K+. The Line of Credit of \$42K was paid off at the end of fiscal year. The Diocesan Annual Appeal for 2006/2007 has 232 pledgers of \$67K.

The goal is \$111,240, which leaves us short \$44K. Fr. Joe will follow-up with letters he has prepared to go out Thursday to all parishioners who have not responded. The month end Financials, Internal Controls Committee, School Finance update, Minutes posting on the web for Finance Council and School Finance Committee. Ryan VanDaniker is a new voting member of the Finance Council. The Building on These Mysteries campaign status is strong. We have received \$639,305 on pledges after one year; total pledges are \$1.747M. The quarterly letter will be mailed soon. The ELC 4 classroom addition is nearing completion. The only problems have involved the flooring (carpet and tile). The original construction bid was \$510K. Offertory for fiscal year 2006/2007 is up nearly 14% over prior year thru 4 weeks. Offertory Budget \$1,428,834/prior year \$1,253,008 (+15.91%) challenges and plans for 8.35% regular offertory, 6.49% pulpit talks, and 1.07 from non-givers. Three restricted donations have come in totaling \$40,000.

Fr. Joe – One pledge in the amount of \$10K was a gift for a new sign but we have since found out from the city that we are not allowed anymore signage. Another restrictive pledge in the amount of \$10K was donated to go towards new furniture for the rectory and vestments. Another restricted pledge in the amount of \$20K was given for the procurement of a pipe organ valued at over \$400K that was donated to the parish. The pledge will help pay for installation which will be a 10-12 month process to fit the organ in the church. It was built in 1954, a choir director in Cincinnati, Omar Westingdorth, used the organ to record music for People's Mass Book. Karen Snider played the organ while living in Cincinnati. The organ is a Wick's organ and is similar to the one at St. Paul's. A visitor dropped by from another parish announced that Mary Queen was a beneficiary of a bequest of \$10K from his father's estate and use to go upgrade a new sound system for the church. I will be contacting Carl's Music. They have the sole rites of the Bose system.

The Finance Council is studying whether or not to buy the house that I am living in on Wellington Way. I am convinced that it is better to buy the house and building up equity. There are new directives from the diocese that each priest is supposed to have a private bedroom, private bathroom and a private study in the residence. People need their space; it is a matter of health. This house doesn't have this exactly but it has most of it. I think if we were to buy it there is room for simple modification. We need to make it an asset that the church can have.

All of these gifts should be a sign of good Stewardship. Fundraisers tend to have a negative effect on all overall stewardship process because people feel they've given their donation to the church. Stewardship means that we take responsibility for the welfare of the whole community instead of being worried about my little group having the money for our particular projects.

School Board – Enid Timoney and Linda Keller

The school is in need of one teacher and a few more teacher assistants. We have a wonderful staff and have lots of plans. Teachers will have several in-service days to work on math and writing. All classrooms are open. The 2nd grade only has 2 classes. There will be an all day pre-K program taught by Kim Urley. Still are waiting on furniture for the students. We have a new cleaning crew and the facility should be cleaner. Enrollment to date is approximately 614 including the pre-K children. Meetings with parents are up coming. The first day of school is August 16. Fr. Steve and Fr. Joe will meet with the classes and are welcome to pop in anytime. It is good for the children to see the priests. It will emphasize the importance of religion. There will be a mass on the first day of school at 9:00.

Youth Leadership – Aaron Corley

We returned from Steubenville on July 16th. We had 55 total people go with our group, 21 of that number was from the Mary Queen youth. The theme this year was "Unchanging". We had some great speakers and amazing adoration. We are having our High School Youth Group kickoff in September, hopefully the 6th or the 13th. We plan to have a praise and worship band there called "One King Train". World Youth Day 2008 is going to be held in Sydney Australia.

Stewardship – George Blandford

We have had no meetings. The next scheduled meeting will be held on August 23rd. George and Walter will be meeting this week.

Liturgy – Fr. Joe

I met with the Liturgy Committee last week. We will be doing some tweaking the liturgy. The Mass should be a continuous flow, a rhythm. The Music Ministry has been asked to use entrance hymns that are consistent with the assigned antiphon and to use music that flows with the rhythm. The real climax of the liturgy is the simplest dialogue between the priest and the people. This climax is the doxology at the end of the Eucharist Prayer. Music should help use recognize that fact. Amen is a sacred word. It should only be repeated twice in a row – listen God is talking now. Have sensitivity to it. The main focus is the altar. We are victims with Jesus in this one perfect offering of praise. I am possibly considering adding a second confessional in the coat room and possibly additional confession time. We are expecting a 4th mass but it will not be offered during formation. We need to strike an optimal time. I am bi-lingual and can celebrate Spanish or a bi-lingual Mass. I am amazed at the ethnic diversity in our community. I've used bi-lingual skills more in 3 weeks than I have in 20 years. I moved the priest chair on the altar 20° so I could face the ambo for the proclamation of Sacred Scripture. I moved the altar back so I could walk around it. Normally one moves to the right side in the Liturgy. The incense is the sign of divine presence. It is a good liturgical sign I do not want to lose. I do not want it to become problematic. I am not sure if Fr. Steve will want to use it. I will not use it on Saturday. I hope we can work out something for those with allergies. After I thought of these things and mentioned them to people, everybody seemed ready for the changes. The community is eager to learn, have eager spirit and we are connecting so well.

Parish Life

No report.

At-Large

Ron Wedding – Communications Ad-Hoc Committee reports that they are still working on the pew review surveys to be conducted during a mass. The committee will meet prior to distributing the surveys with Fr. Joe and will narrow the focus of the survey. The Council should set 2-3 priorities for the parish and the survey encouraged to meet those goals. Make a precise instrument for usable data. It can become more surgically effective, limit to 10 questions. The suggestion box is ready to be placed. We are interested in conducting a Teen Mass including lectors, choirs, ushers and ministers. Participants must be confirmed to perform ministries. Youth involvement is to serve children. Habitat for Humanity will have a playhouse raffle this weekend, \$5 drawing. The playhouse will be going around to various parishes. Our parish goal

is \$6,500. There are 18 homes going to be built by Habitat in the Aspendale area. Our project house is being constructed on Upper Street.

Fr. Joe – VIRTUS program applies to liturgical ministers. Adults are interacting with teens and children. VIRTUS can be extended into our parish community. We must be attentive to the program.

John Mitchell – The Mary Queen website has had 4,000 – 6,000 hits a month. There will be a voice recording of Sunday homilies placed on the website.

Theology of the Body workshop featuring Christopher West will be held August 19th from 8-4. The workshop will change the way you perceive yourself.

Barb Ulaszek – Transition Team: Elections occur in May. Suggestion made to move the election to March or April. Other parishes offer elections during November and during lent. It was suggested to make the election the 4th Sunday of Lent for the next Transition Team. It was also suggested to eliminate the final discernment meeting.

Presider Report – Fr. Joe

MY VISION OF PARISH LIFE – WHOLE COMMUNITY CONVERSION, CATECHESIS, SANCTIFICATION

Evangelization: Primary Duty: Announce the Gospel in words and deeds – inspire the question “WHY?” We need a more **intentional** programming.

Primary Targets: The Unchurched; Secondary Targets: Inactive Catholics

Catholic Catechetical Formation:

Authentic follow through on Primary Duty: On Going Conversion – weekly/daily

Adult and Young Adult: Sacramental (Marriage, Confirmation): On Going Formation

Youth High School: Lexington Catholic; home schooled; public school

Youth Grade School: Mary Queen; home schooled; public school

Worship: Primary Focus: A.C.T.S., opportunity to celebrate / develop community, to evangelize, and to catechize

Triduum – Supreme “event” – Marmion: “the mysteries of Christ become our mysteries” *Life of the Soul*

Mass: Sunday ~ the weekly Triduum (need more + why) and weekday

Preaching: Meaty and practical

Music Ministry: Enhance liturgy

RCIA: 12 month Catechumenate, 12 month Mystagogia, separate from “Full Communion”

RCIC: 12 month Catechumenate, 12 month Mystagogia, separate from “Full Communion”

Rite of Full Communion: More individualized, shorter perhaps, but complete!

Infant Baptism: Preferred at Mass

Confirmation: Restore ancient order?

First Communion: Restore ancient order?

Reconciliation: First Reconciliation – a year before First Communion

Marriages: Nuptial Mass and Outside of Mass (normally Deacons)

Care for the Sick: Anointing of the Sick, Communion to the Sick (shared with Deacons, etc. and Visitation)

Eucharistic Adoration: 24 hours in chapel, possibly will move monstrance to Thursday/Friday

Liturgy of Hours: October 8 this year, will be held on October 7 years to follow

Social Justice and Outreach: where the rubber hits the road

Stewardship – Finance Council

Right to Life: Seamless Garment

Catholic Church’s influence on society: Ecumenism
Politics

Option for the Poor: Material Assistance – St. Vincent de Paul or equivalent
Systemic Justice Issues – e.g. Pro-Life

Welcoming Ministry: Hispanic Ministry
Immigration Issues

Environmental Issues: No paper plates, use real silverware, plates and cups

Peer Ministries: Develop sense of Community and Promote Human Development

Conversion starts within me and you, the staff...etc.

Pastor: Prophet (Teacher guiding with a goal), Priest (shepherd strengthening the Sheep), King (Father/Organizer)

Parochial Vicar: An overseer, an agent of, and a chief extension of my vision as pastor

Deacons and other Staff Members: Implementing the vision, focus of their job descriptions

Domestic Church: Promoted by this vision and on the mission of extending the vision

Whole Community Catechesis: 52 weeks, open to all, sacramental

VIRTUS: Universal application

Business Manager's Report – Walter Leachman

Fr. Joe Muench house's rental agreement is at the Diocesan office. A committee has been formed to evaluate the purchase options. The Mint Julep house is for sale at \$159,900. There was an open house on July 9th with several inquiries but no offers yet. Ryan VanDaniker is the real estate agent. The Mary Queen's Diocesan Assessment for May, 2006 is estimated to be \$226K and is due September 1, 2006. This is at the 8% rate and next year it will be 10.2%. We will utilize the line of credit as necessary to pay the bill. The annual report to the Diocese is due at this time as well. There will be a Roundtable meeting on August 23 to schedule all upcoming calendar events for the year in the meeting rooms. There is also a Stewardship meeting to be held on August 23. The Financial Peace stewardship effort will be offered at the Catholic Center (Diocesan office); Angela Kederis is assisting with the program.

Officer Elections

Chair - George Blandford was elected by acclamation

Recorder – Barbara Ulaszek was elected by acclamation

New Business

Nancy Fister – Opportunity for Diocesan Women: Bishop Gainer announced that he is forming a women's commission to advise him on pastoral issues. The Bishop is seeking applications and nominations of women from which he can name members of the commission. Called the Diocesan Commission for Women, the fifteen member group will also acknowledge issues in the Church and society of concern to women, reflect on the roles of women in the Church and society, lead the Diocese in recognizing the authentic dignity of women, and serve as a resource for the spiritual and personal formation of women. Application forms are in the Crossroads and on the Diocesan website. "This Commission has the potential to enrich the dialogue on pastoral issues by adding perspectives that have not always been sought." Bishop Gainer observed. For further information you may call Nancy Fister at 224-8509 or e-mail at nancyjolex@aol.com.

The next meeting will be August 22nd at 7:00 PM in the RCIA meeting room.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Cindy Hellinger, Recorder
George Blandford, Editor