

Mary Queen of the Holy Rosary Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)
Approved Meeting Minutes November 21, 2006

Jenna Canning the group in prayer. George called the meeting to order at 7:10pm. In attendance: Fr. Joe Muench, Fr. Steve Roberts, George Blandford, Cindy Hellinger, Rebecca DiLoreto, Jenna Canning, John Mitchell, Al Arbogast, Dan Burch, Kabby Akers, Paula Voborsky, Leo Brown, Mona Brown, and Ron Wedding.

There were no corrections to the October meeting minutes. They were approved and will be given to John Mitchell for posting to the parish website.

Worship Committee Report

Jenna reported the Christmas Mass Schedule: **Christmas Eve 5:30pm, 7:30pm and 12am and Christmas Day 8:15am and 11am.** The Sunday Mass schedule will remain the same as usual with the 4pm on Saturday, December 23 and Sunday, December 24 8:15am and 11am.

Social Action

Kabby Akers reports that B.U.I.L.D. is relatively quiet right now. There is a leadership change taking place.

Education Formation

Paula Voborsky reports 7th & 8th grade students will be confirmed this year. She needs catechists for the Wednesday evenings small group sessions for the candidates. The school will be working in conjunction with Education Formation on this sacramental preparation. She noted that if a parent feels a child is not ready for this sacrament, the child should not be confirmed. This is the parent's decision. Fr. Joe stated that the whole diocese is studying confirmation change -- move administering the sacrament to the lower grades. Fr. Joe states that he would like for Mary Queen to be a pilot parish, so to speak, on moving Confirmation back to its original order. He will meet on 11/29 with parents of Confirmation candidates.

Paula also noted that First Reconciliation went well in spite of the changes. First Eucharist will take place on April 14 at the 4 pm Mass. This is a change from the original decision to hold First Eucharist on Sunday, April 15.

Youth

Mona Brown reported that the Youth Rally on 11/4 was a big success. There were 180 youth total in attendance in Ashland, KY. Smaller churches were involved also. The Trick or Treat So Others Can Eat went well with 23 teens and 9 adults participating. Monday and Wednesday night meetings are full with more teens coming each meeting. There was a good article in the Crossroads about the youth.

Stewardship

George Blandford reported 4 informational meetings on the “Partners in Faith” concept on Sunday, 10/29/06 at 6:30pm, Wednesday, 11/1 at 8pm, Sunday, 11/5/06 at 9:30am and 6:30pm. Meeting attendance numbered 15, 21, 68 and 15, respectively for a total of 119. This figure also included PPC members. Personal testimonies of stewardship were well done by John and Carla Brislin, Dr. Heinrich Werner and Wayne Rickert. Stewardship of Treasure weekend signup was held November 11/12. It was moved from spring to better assist parishioners with financial planning for their giving. Fr. Joe needs follow-up for parishioners who do not complete these forms. PPC members will be requested to help with a door-to-door campaign. Planning for the follow-up campaign is scheduled for the next meeting on Tuesday, December 5.

At Large

Dan Burch had several questions from parishioners.

- 1) Is it possible to bring back the Children’s Liturgy?
Fr. Joe said that this is certainly possible if we can have volunteers. Children ready to receive First Communion or older should remain at Mass, however.
- 2) Is it possible to have children receiving religious instruction during Mass times?
Fr. Joe said that children should attend Mass.
- 3) Is it a requirement to hold hands during the Our Father?
Fr. Joe answered that over time this became a custom. It is not obligatory.
- 4) Is it possible to celebrate a 5:30pm Mass on Holy Days of Obligation?
Fr. Joe said a noon mass has been added. The Worship Committee can make a recommendation to Fr. Joe for this to be done. Worship Committee will review consideration to add a 5:30pm Mass on the Holy Day.

Thanks to Cindy Hellinger for the delicious snacks.

Communications Committee

Surveys have been tabulated: 479 total with 109 comments, not all negative. Ron Wedding asked if the summarization of the Communications Survey could be compiled and entered in the bulletin—not the comments. This should be a possibility. Suggestion Box is working. Father Joe is receiving the comments. Town Hall meeting planned 1/23/07 at 6:30pm. There will be a short PPC meeting that evening.

Fr. Steve expressed his appreciation for all support the parish has given. He is grateful for the opportunity to preach the gospel. Mona thanked him for all the help with the youth.

No Business Manager’s Report due to Walter Leachman’s absence

Pastor’s Report

Father Joe addressed comments in the Communications regarding budget jump.

The budget hasn't changed, but the reporting method has. Fr. Joe wanted to clarify the reporting to show the consistent budget needs for all 52 weeks of a budget period instead of the former method showing percent of difference from prior year to current year. Finance Council approved a generous budget for this year –higher expectations of parish giving.

Fr. Joe expressed his serious concerns about the past operating budget that cut religious education and other programs to the bone in order to fund school. He wishes a more equitable plan to more fairly fund all programs. By 2011, due to diocesan changes, tuition change will be implemented to reflect full cost/need. More assistance will be available to help lower income families. The prior plan was unrealistic as regards to the cost of educating the school children. New plan will factor in tax to diocese, cost of the building, etc. These were formerly just considered parish expenses. The new plan will have school set up separately—separate books, etc. School will report to Finance Council and Fr. Joe. Fr. Joe and Rebecca DiLoreto attended a seminar to assist in ideas for increasing school enrollment.

Catholic Mutual of Omaha seminar was attended by Fr. Joe and Mona Brown. Diocese discovered VIRTUS is not being implemented as required. VIRTUS training continues, but there are still not enough parishioners who have completed this program.

Sound system renovation should be complete by tomorrow evening. Sound system is sensitive system—there will be no adjustment for individual groups. There will be a music meeting on 11/29/06 for the Music Ministry. Music focus will be directed to praising God per USCCB. There will be changes.

There is a need for reconciliation between school and religious education programs. There should be no competition between the two.

Ad Hoc Reorganization Committee

Jenna reported that much progress has been made. John Saindon and Joe Stephenson joined the committee. There is a proposal for a standing Communications Committee to be approved by the council. Leo Brown, Dan Burch, and Ron Wedding would be willing to serve on this committee. Council will need to consider this next meeting as far as amending council by-laws and approval of standing Communications Committee.

Fr. Joe foresees smaller At Large membership on council in the future, but more prominent role for At Large members. No one person would have more than 1 vote.

Next meeting will be on Tues. 1/23/07 at 7pm preceded by Prayer and Adoration time and Refreshments. It will be held in conjunction with the Town Hall meeting.

9:21pm Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Barbara Ulaszek, Recorder