

**Mary Queen of the Holy Rosary Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)**  
**Approved Meeting Minutes for October 17, 2006**

Jenna Canning led the assembled group in a prayer, and then George Blandford called the meeting to order at 7:10pm. In attendance: Walter Leachman, Fr. Joe Muench, Ron Wedding, Kabby Akers, Al Arbogast, John Mitchell, Jenna Canning, Cindy Hellinger, Enid Timoney, Dan Burch, Jeri Stromquist, Mona Brown, and Leo Brown. Also attending the meeting were John Saindon, Conor McCarthy, and Clodagh Kellett.

The September meeting minutes were approved with the amendment recommended by Dan Burch regarding Father Joe's anticipated meeting with the school parents. George will send them to John Mitchell for posting on the parish website.

**Finance Committee Report**

Jeri Stromquist reported that there will be a meeting tomorrow morning. The School Finance Committee met on 10/17/06 in the morning. School Financial aid is \$34,645 for 06/07 school year. Unpaid tuitions are \$14,650. Financial update on the four added classrooms demonstrated savings of \$45K on the \$510K original contract. The Board of Adjustments meeting will be October 27th.

The Mint Julep house remains on the market. Finance has approved \$5000 for upgrades to enhance the marketability of the property A kitchen upgrade bid was too high. Other bids will be requested.

Internal Controls committee is preparing for final review for the parish. The school report will follow ASAP.

MQ Festival gross revenue is reported to be \$138K. Budget is a net of \$95K. No report on expenses available yet. Thanks to all who helped and also for the good weather.

**School Board**

Enid Timoney reported that there are 604 students currently enrolled in school. The Spirit Award has been eliminated. On 10/19/06 there will be a Diocesan meeting with John Cooper of Xavier University regarding ways to increase enrollment. Ms. Keller has expressed some concerns about improving communication between parents and the school. Ms. Keller has set up a website. Quarterly report ready—discussion began regarding salaries, pensions for the teachers and staff. KY legislature recently increased public school salaries. Concerns expressed about keeping good teachers.

**Worship**

Jenna Canning stated changes in the works for the Hospitality committee. Plans are for an Information Center (to be staffed by the Hospitality group) as the key communications center for the parish (location the counter in the Gathering Area). The glass case to the left of this will contain contact listings. The Worship committee proposes a need to review and revamp the structure of our parish ministries and committees to make communications more effective. A discussion of approximately 20 minutes led to agreement with Fr. Joe's recommendation to create an Ad Hoc committee to work on our current committee/ subcommittee structures.

Volunteers to serve on this committee with Jenna Canning are Cindy Hellinger, Sue Knies and Barb Ulaszek. Fr. Joe also recommended seeking non-pastoral council members to serve with this group.

### **Social Action**

Kabby Akers reported that B.U.I.L.D. will meet at Shiloh Baptist Church at 7 pm (registration at 6:30pm) to narrow down the focus of their next areas of concern. Education is one very important focus, especially for our Mary Queen community.

### **Youth**

Mona reported in Aaron Corley's absence. She stated that the LifeTeen Program is going great. Wednesday night meeting attendance is growing. Teens are discovering LifeTeen either through the bulletin or by personal invitation. Thirty youth attended the October 11th LifeNight. Father Steve Roberts attends Wednesday evening meetings and acts as liaison for the group. There are two upcoming events—Trick or Treat So Others Can Eat will be held on October 31st. MQ neighborhoods will be visited to collect cans for CAC. Diocesan Youth Rally is Saturday, November 4. Middle School and High School youth can attend both of these events. A question regarding having a LifeTeen Mass at the 5:30pm Sunday evening Mass prompted Father Joe to suggest that this be presented to the Worship Committee.

### **Stewardship**

The Stewardship Committee met twice recently—Tuesday, October 3 at 7pm and Tuesday, October 17 at 7:30am. Stewardship presentations will be held as we learn about becoming "Partners in Faith." Meeting dates will be Sunday, October 29 at 6:30pm (after the 5:30pm Mass), Wednesday, November 1 at 8pm (after the 7pm Mass), Sunday, November 5 at 9:30am (after the 8:15am Mass) with Omelet Breakfast by Chef Tony Pescatore, and Sunday, November 5 at 6:30pm after the 5:30pm Mass. All meetings will be in Church Meeting Rooms C & D except the Omelet breakfast will be in the cafeteria. Council members have been asked to volunteer to host these meetings. Stewardship of Treasure Registration will be held the weekends of November 11 and 12. Father Joe has asked that registered households not completing a Partner in Faith Offertory Promise Form be followed up with home visits at the start of next year. Council members will be asked to assist with this. Committee Chair George Blandford is also serving on the Diocesan Stewardship Commission under the leadership of Deacon Bill Wakefield.

### **At-Large**

Serious needs: Parish is \$75K behind in collections right now.

Our big concern is the number of families, especially school families who are contributing nothing to our parish. Dan Burch and Leo Brown especially expressed concerns about this matter. Leo suggested reading the Scripture passage Malachi 3:10 which is very strongly worded about financial giving.

Al Arbogast commented that perhaps we have too many committees.

Ron Wedding expressed a big thank you to our parish for their generosity for Habitat for

Humanity. Slightly over \$9800 has been received with the sales of raffle tickets, the 2x4s and collection envelopes. Hopefully even more will be received.

Dan Burch reminded Fr. Joe of the request from MQ school parents for a Q & A meeting. Father Joe says because of serious time constraints, his very busy schedule, he has not had time to schedule this yet.

Ron Wedding suggested that we tabulate the pew survey results first, and then consider a town hall meeting.

A big thank you to Jeri and Walter for the delicious snacks. Cindy volunteered to bring snacks for the next meeting.

### **PAC**

Peggy Gabriel was unable to attend this meeting, but submitted her report prior to this meeting. She stated that members of PAC and the formation handbook ad hoc committees met with Father Joe Muench on October 9 to discuss the current draft of the handbook. He commended the work of the committee and made several suggestions concerning organization and additions. The next draft will be completed by the end of the month. Upon completion, it will be posted as a PDF file of the parish web site.

PAC discussed the progress of the Sunday formation program and generally agreed that the first few weeks of formation at all levels are going well. The future work of the committee was also discussed, and this committee has been renamed the Catechetical Committee.

### **Communications**

Ron Wedding states that the Suggestion box is now in the church Gathering Area. There are blank forms and pencils available. The "Pew Review" was reduced to one sheet. It was distributed at last weekend's masses. Results received will be tabulated and reported to the council.

### **Business Manager's Report**

Walter Leachman reported that a Diocesan Financial review was conducted by CFO Deacon Bill Wakefield. There will be a meeting with the Finance Co-chairs to discuss it. Capital Campaign follow-up committee has met and sent out letters last week.--included was a pledge status report as well as information on parish finances and a plea for DAA pledges. We are still short \$33K. The DAA ends December 31 and any shortfall must come from parish operations.

Offertory for fiscal year 06/07 through 16 weeks is \$353,900. Average=\$22,119. Need to average \$27,499 (80%). This is 2.7% above prior year. Budget is 16%. Sunday 5:30pm has average almost \$2,200 for eight weeks. School tuition is projected to be \$1,817,312 compared to budget of \$1,970,412. School Finance Committee has reviewed the school outlook. Projected overall net loss is \$62,000 (including the school) assuming we meet the offertory and DAA goals. We have received restricted donations of \$50,460.

The first newsletter from Diocesan Publications will be published by the end of the month.

## **Pastor's Report**

Father Joe requested that all the council members strongly encourage Partners in Faith Stewardship. It was noted that the Wichita (Kansas) Diocese is a successful model of stewardship. The diocese is requiring a new business model. A big change is that the church and school finances be completely separated. The assessments on the church and the school will be completely separated. The diocese is moving to a model in which the tuition will be reflecting depreciation and the assessment tax on the school.

Teacher salaries will be a big issue—need for fair salary, pensions with the concern for costs. Eventually all school families at Mary Queen will complete a F.A.I.R. application. The suggested implementation for this will be the year 2011. Next year we will likely need to factor depreciation and the diocesan school assessment into the tuition cost. The financial issues facing our parish are huge. We still have major concerns regarding the Board of Adjustment and their possible request to require Mary Queen to pay for road improvement and/or limit our student enrollment.

Father Joe noted that for the Feast of All Saints there will be a vigil Mass at 7pm, and Masses at 8:15am and 7pm on the Holy Day. He noted that Pope John Paul II granted special permission in 1983 to offer extra Masses on special feast day. On All Souls Day there will be 3 Masses—7:30am in Spanish, 8:15am in Latin and 7pm in English, with a possible 5:30pm Mass as well.

Father Joe wants to extend a very special thank you to John Lazzari for his wonderful service as Parish Life Coordinator. There is still a need to fill this position.

John Mitchell suggested that perhaps a special benefit of Partners in Faith could be a discount for a parishioner who actively participates in this program. This would be viable if F.A.I.R. okay's a discount.

George also recommended that with a successful total stewardship program, there is the real possibility that free tuition could someday be a reality for our parish families.

There was no further discussion or business so the meeting was adjourned at 9:04pm.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 11/21/06 at 7pm. There will be no meeting in December.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barb Ulaszek, Recorder