

Church of Saints Peter and Paul

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

February 27, 2007

Members Present: Eric Lloyd, Kristi Bongaarts, Ryan Green, Sharon Hafften, Dorothy Haag, Mary Kaye Schneider, Michelle (Shelly) Gulsvig, and Judy Parmenter.

Guests: Danny Doboszanski (Finance Council Chair), Doug Doboszanski (Trustee), Lynn Scholtes (Parish Business Administrator), Ann Menard and Peter Ryan from Catholic Aid Association.

Guests: Ann Menard and Peter Ryan spoke on behalf of **the Catholic Aid Association**. They reported on the good work the CAA has done within our parish this past year. The CAA has raised ~ \$4,000 for the parish, and will qualify for an additional \$1,000 in matching funds from the home office. Next year they plan to continue to sponsor the Altar Server Appreciation outing to the Twins game, Spooky Bingo, the Easter Egg Hunt and the breakfast for Catholic Schools Week. CAA will once again donate place mats and napkins for parish use.

Finance Council: The FC brought up the lack of funding in the **Funeral Account**. The purpose of the FA was discussed. The FA pays for the meal served after the funeral for the grieving family and their guests. This meal is paid for by monies received through two special Offertory envelopes each year, February and October. The money received from these two collections goes directly to the FA to pay for this meal, nothing else. Ways to get this information out to the rest of the parish were discussed including sending out a letter a couple weeks before the envelopes come due to remind the parish about this ministry. We also discussed having a write up in the next newsletter about the fund and including information on the website and possibly a second collection at mass.

Social Justice Committee: Baby Shower will take place in April. They will arrange dates with Fr. Brian. // Still working on a date to have a representative from Love INC of Delano talk at a weekend's Masses.

Building and Maintenance Committee: No report.

Liturgy Committee: The New Church Building and the Seasonal **prayer cards** should be ready soon. They will be placed in the hymnals by Easter. // Holy Week will be in the church. // The new space heater in Adoration chapel is working great. Folks are staying nice and warm! // Befrienders are working on prayer shawls. // Discussed the **Seasonal Planning Committee**. The LC hopes to gain insight from their reflections on the seasonal readings. // The parish quilters and the Knights of Columbus are working together to create and place a pad within each of the church's hymnal racks. This should reduce the wear and tear on our new hymnals, plus, eliminate the noise when the books are replaced in the rack.

Social Civic Committee: *Parish Games Night* is set for Saturday, March 3rd starting at 7:00 PM Folks are asked to bring a snack to share. // **Cana Dinner** is set for Saturday, March 17th. Cost is \$32 per couple. // March 24th will be the next **Crafting Day** for the parish. There will be a few vendors available and possibly teaching some crafts. // **Soup Suppers** are going well. // Discussed the **Welcome Committee**. The PPC and SCC need to bring some life to this much-needed group.

Fundraising Committee: **WinterFest** was a great success! Carnival brought in more than last year and feedback confirmed that it was a great time for all. Face painting was a hit. Do we need a social event for Saturday evening? The committee is looking at the suggested donation for raffle tickets. They are also looking at the fundraising calendar to coordinate overall fundraising in our parish, including the school.

Faith Formation Committee: The **Clothing Drive** for the Minneapolis Detox Center was a great success. // The Youth Group bake sale at WinterFest brought in \$700. // The Mystagogia celebration for the 11th graders has been moved to April 14th. // The Seder Supper at Temple Israel for our youth is March 25th. // We have reserved 12 places for our youth to attend this summer's **Steubenville Conference** at the University of St. Thomas. To date, 9 still remain open. All high school youth are invited to attend this spiritually rewarding weekend conference. Sign up ASAP! // The Youth Leadership Team will be hosting a Lenten Event on March 23rd. The evening will include the Soup Supper (macaroni and cheese will be served ---☺), open gym, Stations of the Cross, and the new "Mother Teresa" movie in the gym. All people are welcome to attend!

Education Committee: The EC is looking to revamp the preschool space and curriculum. // Discussed marketing ideas. // Looked at changing the fee schedule. Should we require all school families to give a certain amount of volunteer hours to the school each year? This is a common practice in many Catholic schools. If families are unable to offer their time and talent, then they are assessed an additional fee. The EC decided to table this matter until next year. // Decided to encourage non-parish families to ask their home parish to subsidize their tuition, as Sts Peter and Paul does for our parishioners. The EC will meet with the Finance Council and Fr. Brian to discuss these recommendations. // Decided we need to get tuition information onto the website. We discussed creating a new committee to keep up the website as it takes a lot of time and energy for those currently working on it.

Chairperson/ Vice Chair: The **Vocation Information** stand is set up in the parish foyer. Eric will be our contact with SERRA and see that an adequate supply of promotional materials is maintained. // Talked about the last **parish newsletter**. Concern was expressed about the image we are presenting to prospective families. The general feedback was that the second issue missed the mark. Improvement is needed! Talked about the timeliness of the articles. For example, the newsletter arrived for many of us *after* the WinterFest, yet there was a schedule of events for WinterFest in the newsletter. The font was strangely large. On the cover it referred to pictures on page 4 that weren't there. It was decided the first newsletter looked more professional and was a better reflection on our parish. Also discussed the need to have a newsletter geared toward CURRENT parish family members, not prospective ones we are looking to recruit, keeping the focus on what's happening with the school, our kids, and our parish...not just the high points. Shelly will connect with the parish office to talk about what the PPC sees as the role of the newsletter. // Also talked about the parish letter from Fr. Brian enclosed with our annual giving statements. We shared what we have heard from fellow parishioners. As we look at the next few years, what is in the best interest of our parish? Is it time for a change in parish leadership? The PPC will offer its input to Fr. Brian at its March meeting. // PPC elections are fast approaching. Two members will be leaving this spring, Eric and Kristi. It was decided Shelly will step into the Chair role and a new At Large/ Vice Chair will be elected along with a new Social Civic liaison.

Trustees: Doug emphasized the need for all parishioners to reflect on the future of our parish. Everyone is encouraged to share their thoughts with our parish leaders. Attend a New Church Building Committee, a Finance Council, or a Parish Pastoral Council meeting. Take time to call or write or simply chat with one of your parish leaders. Widespread involvement is essential, especially as we move towards building a new church in the next couple of years. // Need to continue to work on our communication with the parish. The parish newsletter is off to a good start, yet it does need improvement. Are there other ways the PPC can improve overall parish communications? // Clearly some better education regarding the Funeral Meal Fund is needed. Everyone should do their part to support this worthwhile ministry.

Pastor: Fr. Brian was on vacation and was not present for this meeting.

Next Meeting: Tuesday March 27, 2007. We will start the evening with Mass at 6:30pm, then individual committee meetings at 7:00, and the PPC meeting at 8:00.

Please remember, the PPC welcomes all guests to attend these meetings and we encourage your feedback!