

**St. Thomas Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
January 19, 2009**

Members:

Fr. Tom Rzepiela
Fr. Ryszard Gron (a)
George Ancona
Cherie Bott
John Breit
Mark Duffey
Cathy Edbrooke (a)
Lee Fialek
Maria Koziol (a)

Jack McCarthy
Carlos Murguia
Theresa Narantic
Geri Ruzbasan (a)
Ron Schaefer
Randy Schappert
Cheryle Seiling (a)
Albert Swiatek (a)
Tom Walsh (a)

(a) absent)

Prayer/Reflection was given by Carlos Murguia.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the Nov. 17, 2008 meeting were reviewed and one correction was noted: under Commissioning of New Members, add Albert Swiatek. Minutes were approved as corrected.

PPC Housekeeping

New Parishioner Meetings

Randy Schappert reported that he attended the November 17, 2008 New Parishioners Meeting and six new families registered. Randy stated that he placed a follow-up call to each and they are all excited to be members of St. Thomas of Villanova.

Carlos Murguia reported that he attended the January 2009 New Parishioners Meeting and eleven new families registered. Two families are from St. Theresa, and five children are in the Religious Ed Program.

STV Couples Night

John Breit reported that the Pizza & Bags Tournament night on Jan. 24 is filling fast.

Parish Council Donation – As is customary, the PPC members will make contributions prior to Feb. 12 for an auction basket from the PPC for the St. Pat's/St. Joe's party.

Father Tom's Report

2011 Golden Anniversary Plans

Fr. Tom stated that the three Co-Chairs for this event are:
Carlos Murguia, Tom Cavenagh, and Mary Ann Kenesey

Four committees will be established, each headed by two co-chairs and six to eight additional committee members. The Committees are:

- Capital Campaign – securing the funds necessary
- Design & Implementation – finalize the needs for the overall STV campus
- Public Relations and Communications Team
- Celebration/Liturgy planning team

It is hoped that by the end of January to have the committees set.

Diocesan Parish Leadership Conference will be held Saturday, February 7. The Workshop will be held at Maria High School, 6727 S. California, Chicago. PPC members wishing to attend should decide ASAP.

St. Joseph-St. Patrick annual dinner/dance scheduled for March 7, 2009 plans are underway. The PPC is asked to contribute a raffle prize.

Church Sprinkler System – On Thursday, January 15 at 5:10 AM the church sprinkler system alarmed. The Palatine Fire Department responded to the alarm and stayed until 7:30 AM and was excellent. An original pipe (not part of the church expansion), in the records room behind the altar, froze and broke in the ceiling at a vent and affected the sprinkler pipe. Water damaged the storage room, rugs, choir carpet, and was on the floor in the furnace room. An insurance restoration team came out. Additional insulation was installed, and we are possibly looking at a dry pipe system.

Action and Consensus Items

Parish Census - John Breit stated that several meetings had recently been held. The Committee had prepared a draft of a letter from Fr. Tom, a sample data form with a Ministries matrix, and reply envelope. PPC members were given the sample distribution and each reviewed and returned it to John with any comments they had. The schedule for the Census begins January 31 and hopefully will be complete by the end of May. It is hoped that results of the census may bring some ideas and needs.

Subcommittee and Reporting Items

Strategic Long Range Planning - Jack McCarthy distributed a sheet to PPC members that outlined ideas and a time frame. A meeting on January 26 will review the “Pillars of the Vision” process undertaken in 2006. The three highest priorities of the PPC are to be reviewed on January 26 by several past and present members.

Oktoberfest 2009 – Next meeting will take place February 11.

Ministry and Staff Reports

Finance –Cathy Edbrooke provided a financial report as of 12/31/08, and in her absence, Ron Schaefer distributed and explained the report.

School– Geri Ruzbasan prepared a report which was read to the PPC members. The School is still working on the 2009-2010 enrollments. Final stages of preparation for Catholic Schools Week in late January is underway. A food pantry drive is being planned.

Religious Ed/ Youth – No report.

Polish Community – No new information to report.

Social Justice/Ministry of Care - Mark Duffey reported that the Lenten alms project collection will be split between Operation Rice Bowl and St. Thomas School and parish families in need.

Deanery Council – Tom Walsh was absent, but had provided information that he was unable to attend the December meeting; the next meeting will be in February.

Parish Manager – Ron Schaefer reported that on January 10 the canopy was struck by a bus bringing guests to a wedding. A recent 8th Graders confirmation retreat was attended by 95 students. Preparation for Annual Catholic Appeal Week is: Feb 7-8 announcement; Feb 14-15 commitment sheets distributed at Mass; Feb 21-22 finalize.

Deacon Report – John Breit stated that they have one or two potential deacon candidates. Three deacons will officially be put on retired status, but will continue to serve. They are Ed Kaczmarek, John Pistone, and Tom Maloney.

Liturgy Committee - Lee Fialek reported that there are four new Eucharistic Ministers.

Wrap-up Items

Bulletin “News for the Pews” items were discussed.

Closing Prayer/Reflection was led by Randy Schappert.

Next Meeting Date will be Monday, February 16, 2009 at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cherie Bott