

**St. Thomas Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
July 21, 2008**

Members:

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

Carlos Murguia
Theresa Narantic
Maria Nowakowski
Geri Ruzbasan
Ron Schaefer
Randy Schappert
Cheryl Seiling
Tom Walsh

(a) absent)

Prayer/Reflection was given by Theresa Narantic.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the June 16, 2008 PPC Meeting were approved.

PPC Housekeeping

Discernment for Co-Chair and Executive Committee:

John Breit led the discernment process. He asked all of the members to take some quiet time to think about what they would like to do and communicate with God and ask Him what is in His heart and soul for each of the members. Positions for discernment included 1 new co-chair member and 2 executive committee members.

After discussion and recommendations by the members, a consensus was reached as follows:

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|-----------------|--|
| Carlos Murguia | Was reaffirmed as Co-Chair for one more year |
| Randy Schappert | New Co-Chair |
| John Breit | New Executive Committee member |
| Cathy Edbrooke | New Executive Committee member |

Replacement of At-Large Members:

Discernment for 3 new at-large members is still needed. In order to find new at-large members it was agreed that the following steps be taken:

- 1) An article would be placed in the Sunday bulletin asking anyone who might be interested to let the Council know.
- 2) An information night would be held for those interested in being an at-large member. It was agreed that this information night should be held on the second Monday in September.
- 3) The 3 open at-large member positions would be discussed during the weekend Masses.

- 4) All current Parish Council members would recommend/invite 1 or 2 people to the information night.
- 5) Ministry heads would be contacted to see if they could provide any recommendations.

The Parish Council is still looking for a representative from the Faith Formation Committee to serve on the Council.

Communication:

Carlos stated that during the Ministry Summit the subject of parish communications was addressed. It was agreed that volunteers from the Parish Council should sponsor a committee on how to improve communication. This will be discussed in greater detail in the Executive Committee.

Father Tom's Report

Fr. Tom advised that STV will celebrate its 50th Anniversary in 2011. To coincide with the anniversary, he would like to have a Capital Campaign for the much needed renovations to the Church. Some of the renovation work would include replacing the carpet, floor tiles and kneelers, refinishing the pews and painting the ceiling. Discussion was held about the possibility of building a new rectory on the Parish grounds that could house 4 to 6 priests and guests as part of the Capital campaign.

After some discussion, it was agreed that a needs assessment must be done. Randy and Lee will work together to identify the process for the needs assessment.

Fr. Ryszard Gron, St. Thomas' new Associate Pastor, was present at the meeting and introduced himself to the Council. All Council Members introduced themselves and identified their roles.

Process to Recognize Parishioners: Will be discussed at the August meeting.

Action Items:

Determine agenda items from the Parish Ministries.

Provide copies of the Parish Council By-laws for those members who never received a copy.

Subcommittee and Reporting Items

Parish Census – Ron Schaefer reported that the rollover of current data should be good to go shortly.

Octoberfest/Parish Picnic – Cheryle Seiling reported that there will be publicity in the front of the Church regarding this event. Catering people will be hired, a liquor distributor will bring out a beer truck, and heaters and other necessary items will be rented from Taylor Rental. There will be clowns, karaoke, bingo and other games. The next Octoberfest Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 23.

Ministry and Staff Reports

Finance Committee: No report.

School Board: Geri Ruzbasen reported that advertising will be placed for “back to school” enrollment. She also advised that the school board plans to invigorate its website and that the work on the School sign is still in progress. Geri mentioned that there has been more crossover between the School board and the Parish than in the past and she would like to see it continue.

Religious Ed/ Youth: No report.

Polish Community: No report.

Social Justice: No report.

Deanery Council: No report.

Parish Manager Report: Ron Schaefer reported the tile is being removed, classrooms are being retiled, a cleaning company is cleaning the building, the terrazzo floor has been stripped down and new base boards will be installed. The tile removal will be completed in August; the hall will be completed in another week or two. Potholes in the parking lot will also be filled.

Deacon Report: John Breit reported that they are currently working on finding new deaconate candidates.

Liturgy Committee: No report.

Disaster Relief Ministry: Lee reported that a group of 13 people went to Biloxi, MS to work in the areas affected by Hurricane Katrina. He stated that the project in Biloxi was very organized. Lee advised that it is uncertain what the future holds for the Disaster Relief Ministry at this time. The group may investigate the possibility of contacting someone in the areas of the Midwest that were devastated by the recent flooding. Lee stated that, although the volunteers from STV were down from the previous years, STV has contributed much monetarily.

Newcomers' Meeting: The next Newcomers' Meeting is school for August 12 at 7:30 PM.

August Agenda Items: Discuss process to identify outstanding parishioners.

Closing Prayer/Reflection was led by Lee Fialek

Next Meeting Date will be Monday, August 18, 2008 at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie McCormick