

Saint Francis Xavier Pastoral Council Minutes
9 April 2007
Carbondale, IL 62901

In Attendance: Laura Butler, Father Bob Flannery, Sister Rosemary, Toni Intravaia, Julie Laczynski, Paul McGreal, Ana Migone, Margie Mitchell, Doris Weaver, Ed Varsa

Absent: Juliana Cruz, Steve Schauwecker

Excused: Jane Boardman, Chuck Grace, Laura Kidd

- 1. Prayer/Reflection.** Father opened the meeting at 7:10 pm with a prayer. The temperature was such that those in attendance could see their breath, as well as the breath of others in attendance. We dispensed with the reading and reflection due to our visitor from the Diocese. Father Bob introduced Greg Rhode from the Diocese.
- 2. Guest Presenter – Greg Rhode from the Diocese.** Presentation concerned adult faith formation. One option is distance learning to obtain a Masters at the Aquinas Institute of Theology. Another online option is Notre Dame University Online Courses that are purely for adult faith formation (i.e., not for academic credit or degree). For example, the courses cover topics including “Catholic Prayer: The Lord’s Prayer, the Hail Mary, and the Doxology,” and “Liturgy: A Guide for the Perplexed.” Sister Rosemary noted that several parishioners have found “The Catholic Spiritual Gifts Inventory” to be a worthwhile experience. Discussion ensued.
- 3. Call to Order/Roll Call.** See above.
- 4. Visitors.** No visitors.
- 5. Approval of Minutes of February 22, 2007.** Motion to approve the minutes was made by Ed Varsa, seconded by Laura Butler, and approved by a voice vote.
- 6. Old Business.**
 - a. Capital Campaign.** As of last Thursday, the pledges are at \$574,453 out of \$610,000.
 - b. Parish Website.** Some items are out of date. We will identify the changes to be made and forward them to Suzanne Nasco.
 - c. Cluster Mission.** New date – October 6-11, 2007. Will be held in the evenings.
 - d. Fourth Goal.** This is the final goal. Review of the goal is postponed to the next meeting due to the length of discussion with Greg Rhode. Sister Rosemary and others complemented Laura Kidd on her excellent work and dedication in completing the goals grid.

e. Remaining Coffee and Donut Days. No group is yet assigned to May 6, and June is assigned to Gina Hill (representing the youth groups). We will assign May to a parish group.

f. New Parish Directory. It is time for a new parish directory due to both changes in the parish membership, and that we have run out of copies of the old directory. Father Bob took suggestions for who might serve on a committee to create the new directory. Notably, all persons named were not in attendance.

g. New Accompanist. Father Bob praised the work of our new accompanist, Cynthia Fligel.

h. Joint Meeting of Cluster Pastoral and Finance Councils and School Board. Members of the Council shared reflections on the meeting. All agreed that Suzanne Schmitz did an excellent job as facilitator. At the next meeting, we will review Suzanne Schmitz's notes on the meeting and speak about what comes next.

i. Catholic Services and Ministry Appeal. We are at over half, and almost two thirds, of our goal.

j. Pastoral Associate Replacement. Kathy Caferetta, who had been the DRE at DuQuoin and had started the RCIA there, has wanted to serve as a pastoral associate. Father Bob had obtained resumes from Greg Rohde, and felt that Kathy would be a good fit. She will be here for Monday through Thursday, and when needed on weekends. Laura Butler and Steve sat in on the interview and gave very positive feedback. She is looking for a small, inexpensive place to rent in Carbondale. She will start July 1, 2007.

We are planning a gathering to thank and wish well to Sister Rosemary. It will be held after a Saturday mass in June.

7. Committees.

a. Heritage Club. Mass and St. Patrick's Day party.

b. Liturgy – Lent, Triduum, Easter, Easter Season. Penance services were very well attended. At SFX and Newman Center, the services went for about 90 minutes. Father Bob was very pleased with the turnout for Holy Thursday and Good Friday, though the Easter Vigil turnout was less than in the past. Easter Sunday was standing room only for the 10 am Mass.

We received about \$1,000 in donations for flowers. Father Bob appreciated the assistance of those who purchased the flowers – the flowers were beautiful and well within our limited budget.

Toni reported that the penance service for the PSR students went very well.

Pros and cons of the organ were discussed.

On Holy Thursday, there seemed to be more people participating in the adoration.

c. Women's Club. The Women's Club will be donating about \$2,500 to local and regional charities, including Catholic Social Services and Shawnee Crisis Pregnancy Center. The May breakfast will be May 20, 2007, after 10 am Mass. Women's Club will be donating \$2,000 to scholarships.

d. Knights of Columbus. Ed Varsa reported on the successful March fish fry, which netted \$2,600. The Knights will be donating \$2,000 to scholarships. Friday, May 18, 2007, is proposed as the night for a dinner meeting at Hunan's to honor the PSR teachers.

This is the 125th Anniversary of the founding of the Knights. The plan is to have an insert in a parish bulletin that informs the parish of this milestone and encourages membership.

During May, the Knights sponsor a baby shower charitable event.

e. Family Life/Respect Life/Vocations. The egg hunts after the 8 am and 10 am Easter Masses went well. Ed Varsa suggested publicizing the April 29 World Day for Vocations.

f. Community Life – Health Committee. Father Bob asked that if we see anything in the paper about events or activities promoting health, such a blood pressure checks, to bring it to the parish's attention.

g. Finance Council. People have been giving more on a weekly basis. Diane Tomczak has been working hard as the new bookkeeper. Father Bob also confirmed that direct deposit is available for weekly donations, but that the parish should do a better job in publicizing that option.

h. Faith Formation. Toni Intravaia reported. The text of her report is attached to these minutes.

i. Buildings and Grounds. Margie Mitchell reported that the Committee met with the engineers about progress for plans for the HVAC portion of the Xavier Hall renovations. The engineers are arranging dates for the pre-bid meeting and bid submittal. A complete set of plans will be sent to the Diocese. After award of the bid, it would be a month to start (about the beginning of June). Xavier Hall will be without AC for the Summer, with the equipment usable by October 1. The contractors will be instructed to make Xavier Hall presentable for weekends. Discussion followed regarding how the renovations would affect groups that use Xavier Hall.

j. Youth Representatives. Sister Rosemary reported for Juliana. The fundraising has begun for the trip to Australia for the Pope's visit.

k. Saint Andrew School. Ana Migone reported that April 18 will be the 8th Grade field trip to Chicago.

There will be a meeting on Sunday, April 22, with representative of the Diocese regarding the Hispanic Catholic Community.

Hispanic second graders are making first holy communion this month.

Father Bob reported that we will receive a \$700 check from the Hispanic community to assist with the costs at Saint Francis Xavier.

l. Social Justice. Father Bob reported that the World Hunger sale will be held this Friday and Saturday at the Newman Center.

m. Organ. Father Bob reported on use of the borrowed organ during the Easter Season.

n. Stewardship Committee. There will be a meeting at noon this week. Stewardship of Treasure refers to all of a parishioner's charitable giving to the causes at the church.

o. Cluster Council. Parish Mission will be the topic of the next meeting.

p. Other. None.

8. New Business.

a. Use of Xavier Hall for Non-Parish Events – Rental Fees. Father Bob received calls from parishioners about use of Xavier Hall by parishioner Sheila Simon for a campaign event. Sheila approached Father Bob about use of the Hall, and she rented the Hall for a campaign event and paid the rental fee. Father Bob asked for feedback about this use of the facility. Paul McGreal will review what types of policies other Catholic parishes have adopted on the issue of use of facilities.

b. Farewell for Sister Rosemary. Already discussed.

c. Stewardship of Treasure. Already discussed.

d. Catholic Social Services Awards Banquet. Father Clyde and Father Carl are being honored on Friday, April 27, 2007, in Belleville. Father Bob will advertise in the parish bulletin and suggested taking out an ad in the event program.

e. LARC Annual Ascension Thursday Evening Prayer Service at Saint Francis (May 17, 2007). Father Bob will preside. Father Bob asked the Pastoral Council to assist with the social aspects of the event.

f. Response to Use of Organ During Holy Week Services. Already discussed.

- g. Vocations Day with the Bishop.** Father Bob solicited suggestions.
 - h. Dates for Annual Outdoor Mass and Picnic/Welcome Dinner.** The suggested date for outdoor mass and picnic is Sunday, August 26, 2007. Due to the work on Xavier Hall, we have tabled the precise date of the welcome dinner for new parishioners. One option is to hold at the same time as usual, September 7, 2007, but at an alternate site (e.g., Newman Center). Another option is to postpone the dinner until after the renovation is complete. November 7, 2007, was suggested as a post-renovation meeting date.
 - i. New Council Members Process.** Greg Rohde suggested that we have a discernment process for soliciting new members. We have two vacant seats on the Council. Our current policy is three year terms renewed once. Our practice has been to announce the vacancies in the Bulletin and solicit volunteers. If no volunteers surface, people are approached and asked to serve.
 - j. Other Matters?**
- 9. Pastoral Associate's Report.** At this week's RCIA meeting, Sister Rosemary will tell candidate's about opportunities to become involved in the parish.
 - 10. Pastor's Report.** Father Bob announced that he will be traveling to Turkey after the April 29 Mass for an ecumenical trip. He will return May 14.
 - 11. Future Agenda Items.** Call for items.
 - 12. Next Meeting – May 21, 2007 at 7 pm.**
 - 13. Individual Responsibilities.**
 - 14. Prayer and Adjournment.**