

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES
Xavier Hall, Carbondale IL
23 May 2005

Goal: “To enhance and increase the meaningful involvement of more parishioners in the spiritual and social aspects of our Parish community.”

- 1. To improve adult religious education activities.**
- 2. To increase Mass attendance.**
- 3. To increase activities and attendance at activities.**
- 4. To improve communication between Parish leadership and the community.**

In attendance: Ben Balsano, Bob Bauman, Jane Boardman, Laura Butler, Amber Crawshaw, Leslie Ferraro, Nick Ferraro, Father Bob Flannery, Chuck Grace, Jack Hagan, Sister Rosemary Henrichs, Laura Kidd, Margie Mitchell, Steve Schauwecker, Ed Varsa, Doris Weaver

Excused: Laura Butler, Leslie Ferraro, Tonì Intravaia

1. **Prayer/Reflection:** Chair B. Balsano opened the meeting at 7:03 P.M. Sister Rosemary led the Council in prayer. C. Grace read from John 6:51-58. Sister Rosemary led the Council in reflection.
2. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chair B. Balsano, who welcomed our new Youth Representatives, Amber Crawshaw and Nick Ferraro.
3. **Visitors:** There were no visitors.
4. **Approval of April 25, 2005 Minutes:** A motion to accept the April 2005 Pastoral Council minutes was made by C. Grace and seconded by M. Mitchell. The minutes were accepted by voice vote.
5. **Agenda Prioritization:** The agenda was approved as written.
6. **Nominations of Officers:** The following people have been nominated for Pastoral Council positions: Laura Butler as Chair, Doris Weaver as Vice Chair and Laura Kidd as Secretary. B. Bauman made a motion to close the nominations, which was seconded by C. Grace. The vote on these nominees will occur at the June Pastoral Council meeting.
7. **Old Business**
 - a. **Goal:** The Council briefly discussed the goals and some of the activities that have occurred that meet our objectives. Recent activities include the Ascension Day service, the ‘Prayer’ phase of the stewardship initiative, the May Family Mass, the Rosaries that are recited after Sunday Masses in May.

- b. Capital Campaign:** Father continues to work on forming a committee for the Capital Campaign. Members are still needed.
- c. Website:** Items are being forwarded to the website. Thanks to Tom and Leanne Furby for the speed in which items are placed on the website.
- d. Welcome Dinner:** L. Kidd and M. Mitchell are in charge of the Welcome Dinner for New Parishioners, which is scheduled for Friday, September 9.
- e. Council Elections:** C. Grace is continuing to try to find interested people who would like to serve on the Pastoral Council. Interested parties can contact Father Bob or Chuck Grace.
- f. Parish Picnic:** The main shelter at Evergreen Park has been reserved for Sunday, August 28, 2005, for our annual Parish Mass and Picnic.
- g. Servers' Outing:** Father Bob is finalizing the date for his annual Servers' Outing to Six Flags.

8. Committees and Reports

- a. Heritage Club:** J. Boardman reported that the Club had dinner at Giant City Park. In June, the Club will have an outing on the DeSotos' pontoon on the Lake of Egypt.
- b. Liturgy:** The next meeting of the Liturgy Committee will be at noon on July 27. B. Bauman reported that the Liturgy schedules are now on the website.
- c. Women's Club:** M. Mitchell reported that 25 people attended the Women's Club Breakfast in May. The next meeting will be in September.
- d. Knights of Columbus:** E. Varsa reported that planning for the fall Tootsie Roll drive has started. The dates for the drive are October 7 and 8. The Knights hosted the annual PSR Appreciation meal on Sunday evening, May 22. E. Varsa also reported that the Knights' Family Outing will be hosted by the Kosters.

Donations are still needed for the Shawnee Crisis Pregnancy Center; E. Varsa reported that donations are especially low in the summer. A discussion was held to see if any solutions could be found to increase donations. One suggestion by Sister Rosemary was to have donations taken up to the altar during the Offertory. The Council agreed that this was a good idea. Father will place an announcement in the bulletin inviting parishioners to bring their donations to the altar at the Offertory. Council members will provide the first round of donations during the Masses on June 4 and 5.

- e. Family Life:** There was a Family Mass on Wednesday, May 4 at 7:00 P.M. Attendance was low.

f. Health Committee: No report.

g. Finance Council: S. Schauwecker reported on the Saint Francis Xavier Finance Council meeting and the Cluster Finance Council meeting, which included members of the Saint Francis Xavier and Saint Andrew Finance Councils and the Stewardship Committee members. Collections for Saint Francis Xavier Parish are slightly up from last year; however, expenses are still rising. A \$30,000 shortfall is expected.

The support of Saint Andrew School remains a major portion of expenses. This year, the projected contribution from Saint Francis Xavier Parish is expected to be approximately \$89,000, which is an increase from last year's contribution (approximately \$76,000).

Enrollment is up slightly at the school; as of the meeting, there are 58 students registered from Saint Francis Xavier Parish and 68 students registered from Saint Andrew Parish.

The Council held a discussion on the financial realities of supporting Saint Andrew School. S. Schauwecker supports considering 1/3 of our budget to go directly to the school for its support. Fundraising will continue to be an important method of supporting the school. There appears to be a need for a more rigorous means of assuring that all families are meeting their financial obligations to the support of the school.

h. Faith Formation: No report.

i. Buildings & Grounds: M. Mitchell reported that the B & G Committee met on May 12. She reported on the SIU energy audit recommendations. The auditor is finishing up the report, and will include many good ideas and recommendations that we can use in forming the list of items that need to be included on the Xavier Hall Capital Campaign. M. Mitchell is also going to seek some recommendations from AmerenCIPS.

The diocesan engineer, John Webber, has been contacted and has met with John Zubalen and Jim Ewers. Mr. Webber will provide an estimate on the work that needs to be done. M. Mitchell reported that the engineer will provide a number of different options, as well as help locate grant funding that might be available. The Council thanks Margie for starting this process.

j. Social Justice: Father reported that Elsie Speck and the Saint Francis Peace Group continue to promote and instigate numerous social justice events.

k. Youth Representative: A. Crawshaw and N. Ferraro reported on the following youth activities:

- >three successful bake sales were held for the youth going to World Youth Day;
- >the May car was canceled and rescheduled for July 9;
- >the goal for the Germany trip has been met. However, more fundraisers will be occurring in order to raise food and spending money for the youth who are going on the trip. The youth who are attending WYD thank the Parish for their continuing report;

>National Catholic Youth Conference will be held in Atlanta in October;
currently three youth are going;
>Catholic Day at Six Flags will be held on July 24.

l. Saint Andrew School: D. Weaver reported that graduation was held on May 23 and the last day of school will be on Wednesday, May 25. Sister Rosemary is serving on the search committee for a new principal.

m. Small Christian Communities: Groups continue to meet and have favorable reports on the Quest series. Sister Rosemary suggested that SCC start during Lent; the Council agrees that this would be a good idea. Father reminded the Council of the possibility of hosting a mission as a cluster activity. B. Bauman asked about the response to the 'Prayer' phase of the stewardship initiative. Father reported that the response was very good.

n. Organ: No report.

o. Stewardship Committee: B. Bauman reported that the 'Prayer' phase of the stewardship initiative has started and response appears positive. The Stewardship Committee continues to work on the next two phases, the 'Time and Talent' and 'Treasure'.

p. Cluster Council: L. Kidd and Father Bob reported on the discussions of the Cluster Council. The next meeting will be at Xavier Hall on Wednesday, May 25. Discussions are centering on activities that can be done as a cluster community.

L. Kidd also reported that she has sent in the Parish Cluster report to the Diocese.

9. Communications : No report.

10. New Business

a. Bishop Braxton's Installation: Bishop Braxton's installation will held on Wednesday, June 22 at 3:00. Everyone is welcome, but reservations must be made.

b. ABA Appeal: Father reported that the campaign is going well, and we anticipate meeting our goal.

c. Area/Deanery Mass for Bishop Braxton: On July 7, Bishop Braxton will be celebrating a Mass for parishes in the South Deanery. Saint Francis Xavier Parish will be hosting this event. The Mass will be at 7:00 P.M.

d. Hispanic Questionnaire: Father reported on his comments to a questionnaire that surveys what parishes are or are not doing for the Hispanic population. Most items concern ways to better understand the culture of the Hispanic community and how this community might be better integrated into surrounding communities.

e. **Other matters:** None

11. Pastoral Associate's Report: Sister Rosemary reported the following:
>the YMPT is finalizing the youth activities for the upcoming year; this should be completed by August. Sister reports that she still needs coordinators for many of the scheduled activities;

>advertisements for RCIA will be placed in the bulletin and the *Southern Illinoisan*;

>Sister is going to plan a meeting with the RCIA leaders from Saint Andrew and the Newman Center to see if there are any RCIA activities that might be done as a cluster activity.

12. Pastor's Report: No report.

13. Individual Responsibilities:

>Council members to bring baby items for donation at the Masses of June 4 and 5;

>Final election of officers for Pastoral Council.

13. Next Meeting: The next meeting will be Monday, June 27, 2005, at 7:00 P.M. at Xavier Hall.

14. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 P.M. with a closing prayer led by Father Bob.

Respectfully submitted by L. Kidd.