

**SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES
XAVIER HALL, CARBONDALE IL
June 2, 2008**

In attendance: Jane Boardman, Kathy Cafferata, Father Bob Flannery, Eric Gerhard, Chuck Grace, Tonì Intravaia, Laura Kidd, Paul McGreal, Ana Migone, Margie Mitchell, Steve Schauwecker, Walt Tomczak, Doris Weaver, Mark Wilson, Colleen Wood

Excused: Hazel Law, Laura Butler, Sharon Wunderle

- 1. Prayer Reflection:** Father Bob: 7:04 PM; reading the Gospel from Matthew; led reflection.
- 2. Call to Order:** Chair D. Weaver called the meeting to order. The Council welcomed our newest members, Eric Gerhard, Hazel Law, Mark Wilson, and our new Youth Representative Colleen Wood.
- 3. Visitors:** None
- 4. Approval of Minutes of April 28, 2008 Meeting:** W. Tomczak made a motion to accept the minutes of April 28, 2008, which was seconded by M. Mitchell. The motion carried on a voice vote.
- 5. Old Business**
 - a. Capital Campaign:** Father Bob reported that \$556,958.00 out of \$610,000.00 has been pledged. Actual pledges received totals \$334,436.69. Expenses paid out total \$405,062.54; our current loan amount is \$107,439.00. The roof is now finished; next job will be the parking lots and the dryvets.
 - b. Parish Website:** P. McGreal: Everything on the website is up to date. K. Cafferata and P. McGreal will be working this summer on a special 'sacraments' page for our website.
 - c. New Parish Directory:** Father Bob was pleased to announce that the Parish Directories have arrived. D. Weaver reported that they are being passed out after weekend Masses. Father Bob wishes to thank everyone on the committee who helped organize the directory.
 - d. Catholic Services and Ministry Appeal:** Father Bob reported that \$24,959.37 from 132 households has been pledged. Our goal this year was \$25,851 from 152 households participating..
 - e. New Council Members:** Three new Pastoral Council members, Eric Gerhard, Hazel Law, and Mark Wilson, and a new Youth Representative, have joined the Pastoral Council, replacing L. Butler, L. Kidd, and J. Laczynski. Our new Youth Representative is Colleen Wood, who is replacing Lena Walker and Jane White, who shared this Council seat. Sharon Wunderle will now represent the Women's Club, replacing M. Mitchell.

Father Bob and the Pastoral Council wishes to thank the outgoing members for their participation and work on the Council and in the Parish, and wishes to welcome the in-coming members to the Council.

As an additional note: E. Varsa may serve another term as the representative from the Knights of Columbus; a final decision from E. Varsa will be made at a future date.

f. Eucharistic Adoration: Review: E. Varsa reported on the Eucharistic Adoration, which was held May 29 and 30. Participation in the Eucharistic Adoration continues to grow. He especially thanked Bob and Julie Laczynski for their role in spearheading this meaningful Parish devotion, and the Council thanks the Knights for their continuing sponsorship. The next Eucharistic Adoration has been scheduled for September 4 and 5, 2008.

g. Seeds of Hope: Father reported on a successful and inspiring Seeds of Hope day. There were about 15 Saint Francis Xavier parishioners who attended.

h. Parish Outdoor Mass and Picnic: M. Mitchell has reserved Evergreen Park for Sunday, 24, 2008 for our annual Outdoor Mass and Parish Picnic. The permit is on file in the Parish Office, and will need to be posted at the picnic site.

i. Other: None

6. Committees and Reports

a. Heritage Club: J. Boardman reported that the Club participated and enjoyed their last luncheon meeting at Giant City Lodge. Nothing is planned for the summer, and there will be a meeting in August (to be scheduled) to set the next year's agenda and events.

b. Women's Club: M. Mitchell reported that the brunch on May 18 went very well. The Fall Fest has been scheduled for September 26, 2008.

c. Knights of Columbus: E. Varsa reported that the Knights had their annual appreciation dinner for the PSR catechists at Hunan's on May 18. It was well attended and very appreciated by the catechists. The Knights will have their final meeting on June 4, with election of officers. The Tootsie Roll Drive has been scheduled for the weekend of October 3 and 4, 2008. At a date to be decided, the Kosters will again host the Knights' annual summer family outing and picnic.

d. Family Life/Respect Life/Vocations: Events that support these causes included selling Rose for Life on Mother's Day; a very well-attended Family Mass on May 7; increasing prayers for religious vocations during Mass petitions. K. Cafferata informed the Council that information about vocations will be included in religious instruction/PSR on a more regular basis.

e. Community Life/Health Committee: D. Weaver and K. Cafferata are working to invite more members to join this committee.

f. Finance Council: S. Schauwecker reported that there was a meeting at Saint Andrews to formulate the School's budget for next year. Enrollment for next year includes 127 students K-8,

and approximately 14 enrolled in pre-school. The Finance Council is also working on next year's budget; revenues are down, expenses are up and he projects a budget shortfall of approximately \$20,000. The income from Sunday collections was down this past year; in particular, the amount collected in loose change dropped significantly.

g. Faith Formation:

>Please see T. Intravaia's report as Attachment A to these minutes.
>C. Grace reported that some new youth ministers will be joining Teens in Spirit.
>Another issue that will need to be addressed for the 2009-2010 PSR year is extending the length of instruction time for Sunday PSR. The 50 minute lesson times are not really allowing for the type of instruction that is necessary. A discussion was held on whether middle school PSR could also go a TIS model. Adopting the exact TIS model (8 hours a day, 4 days a year) might prove problematic for middle schoolers, but may be a starting point exploring and discussing further options.

h. Building & Grounds: M. Mitchell reports that three skylights in the roof need to be replaced. Estimates for repaving the parking lots are also being gathered. She also reported that the limestone in the front of the church needs to be cleaned, and mold needs to be removed from the roof. The windows in the Church also need to be washed. Discussions are also being held on the best way to solve the KC room water problem. Father Bob reported that the heating and air conditioning issues for the Hall appear to be resolved; he also stated that the dryvet needs replacement.

i. Youth Representative: C. Wood gave a brief report about DYC and how attending DYC increased her faith. She is actively involved in getting more of our youth to attend next year's conference. .

j. Saint Andrew School: M. Wilson reported on the School's continued commitment to integrate technology in everyday activities and lessons. This is proving to be a challenge, as the School tries to find a person who is an educator first, and a computer tech second. Father Bob reported that there is a waiting list for pre-school. The Saint Andrew Festival dates are August 8 and 9, 2008.

k. Social Justice: A recent social justice event was the 'Pastors for Peace' drive.

l. Stewardship Committee: A second reminder was sent out to parishioners who had not responded to the Treasure cycle commitment. The 'Prayer' cycle is coming up in September.

m. Cluster Council: L. Kidd reported that the next Cluster meeting will be on June 5. At the last meeting, planning for our Cluster Mass in February 2009 was started.

n. Small Christian Communities: K. Cafferata reported on the organizational and informational meeting that was held at Xavier Hall on May 28. This year, there are two lessons/topics to choose from: (1) the Quest series, which concentrates on the current readings, and (2) 'Why Catholic?', a study series based on the Catechism. At last one new group is

forming, and the Parish will be informed of the possibilities of these opportunities starting in August. There will be sign-ups available at the Masses, as well as on-line.

o. Liturgy Committee: For the Feast of Corpus Christi, home-made hosts were used (as they are for any special occasions). There was also some discussion on Word Communion Services that are held in the absence of a priest. Although at least one diocese has revoked Word Communion Services in lieu of daily Mass, there is currently no change in any policy concerning Word Communion Service for the Diocese of Belleville.

p. Hispanic Community: A. Migone reported that the Hispanic faith community is waiting for a priest from Bolivia to come and help with their ministry and congregation. Recently, the Hispanic faith community welcomed four adults into the Church with First Eucharist.

q. Carbondale Interfaith Council: Father Bob reported on the very successful Interfaith Week that was held. Saint Francis Xavier is hosting the August 28, 2008 Interfaith Council meeting. As a reminder, there are still some openings for representatives from Saint Francis Xavier to be on the Interfaith Council.

7. New business

a. Missionary Cooperative: For the weekend Masses on June 7 and 8, Bishop Thomas Thiruthalil, C.M. from India will be at the Masses to speak on the missionary cooperative.

b. Welcome Dinner: The annual Welcome Dinner for New Parishioners, hosted by the Pastoral Council, will be held on Friday, September 5, 2008, following the 5:30 Mass (and Eucharistic Adoration).

c. Food for the Poor: A priest from Food for the Poor will celebrate Mass at Saint Francis Xavier the weekend of June 21 and 22.

d. Election of Officers: Election of officers for the upcoming 2008-2009 year are as follows:

Chair: Doris Weaver

Vice Chair: Paul McGreal

Secretary: This office will be suspended for a time, and P. McGreal will act as scribe until a permanent secretary can be found.

e. Other: The Council wishes to thank M. Mitchell, L. Butler, L. Kidd, and J. Laczynski for their past service on the Council.

8. Pastoral Associate: K. Cafferata reported on the following:

>The spring RCIA group is still meeting through the summer, and it is anticipated that many of them will join a SCC this fall.

>K. Cafferata is going to start accepting RCIA candidates all year around and will advertise this starting June 18.

>The YMPT youth group is raffling a basket for the Cubs/Cardinal game and selling tickets as a fundraiser to help finance youth who wish to attend Camp Ondessonk weekends.

9. Pastors Report: Father Bob started what evolved into a spirited discussion on falling Church income and attendance. Although no solutions to these challenges were found, this was an important discussion to have and one that needs to be continued. Father Bob also reminded the Council that he will leave on June 15 for a mini-sabbatical and will return on July 16.

10. Future Agenda Items

>August 24 Outdoor Mass and Picnic: organization of eating utensils and plates, tables, drinks, games for young people, set-up and tear-down; posting of permit at Evergreen Park.
>Welcome Dinner, September 5: menu decision, set-up and tear-down

11. Next Meeting: Monday, July 28, 2008, 7:00 P.M., Xavier Hall

12. Individual Responsibilities. Nothing outstanding.

13. Prayer and adjournment: The meeting was adjourned with a special blessing for Father Bob by Kathy Cafferata and the Council in honor of his 35th Anniversary of Priesthood Ordination.

Respectfully submitted by Laura K. Kidd

ATTACHMENT A

Pastoral Council June 2, 2008 Toni' Intravaia CRE

PSR ended on Sunday May 18th and truly it was a great ending. That evening the Knights gave us an appreciation dinner at Hunan's. Again that was a wonderful end. Then on Monday at 7 we had our annual check up catechist meeting. I gave a general over all summary and then each teacher gave a summary of their particular grade's year. Father Bob was there to bless us for another year. And in a special way we catechists thank you all for your help. The Faith Formation for Adults will finish the eight sessions on John on June 17th and then we will take a break until August. The group has been faithful and very contributive as we meet for an hour each week.

The Children's Liturgy continues with Audria, Sharon, Nancy and Toni' at the 10 am Mass.

I am looking forward to a Teens in Spirit Meeting to plan for the forthcoming year. Now begins Vacation Bible School. Paulette and I are in charge and this year we are here at Saint Francis with God and the Rain Forest. It is a great program. So far I have three applications; I don't know how many Paulette has. And to date I have five adults signed up for Bible, two signed up for Games, two for Snacks, and I am still searching for Crafts. Also I have started getting helpers from the forthcoming junior class. And, if you try to go in my office, you will find VBS supplies.

Saturday I was privileged to be part of The Seeds of Hope. Liz Quirin of the Messenger asked me what I thought of it, All I said was "WOW" - Now that I think of it I should have said Wow, the Spirit is certainly working with us today through The Seeds of Hope. It will take quite a while to really get the meat of that program. My only regret was that not everyone was there. It is wonderful to be part of the Cluster.