

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH
CARBONDALE, IL
26 September 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: Bob Bauman, Laura Butler, Leslie Ferraro, Nick Ferraro, Father Bob Flannery, Chuck Grace, Jack Hagan, Sister Rosemary Henrichs, Tonì Intravaia, Laura Kidd, Margie Mitchell, Steve Schauwecker, Ed Varsa, Doris Weaver

Excused: Jane Boardman, Amber Crawshaw

Absent: Ben Balsano

1. **Prayer/Reflection** – Chair L. Butler opened the meeting at 7:06 P.M.. Father Bob read a Gospel from Matthew and led the reflection.
2. **Call to Order/Roll Call:** Chair L. Butler called the meeting to order.
3. **Visitors :** None.
4. **Approval of Minutes of August 8, 2005:** B. Bauman made a motion to approve the August 8, 2005 minutes; L. Ferraro seconded the motion. The motion carried on a voice vote.
5. **Agenda Prioritization: Request for Youth Report at this time:** N. Ferraro requested that the Youth Report be moved forward; this was approved. N. Ferraro reported on the following Youth activities:
 - >The Game Night held in September had a good turnout; Gina Hill was the coordinator of this event;
 - >Tootsie Roll Drive: Four (4) youth helped with the Knights of Columbus’ annual Tootsie Roll Drive;
 - >World Youth Day was held at the Shrine; no high school youth attended; the middle school youth who attended had a very good time;
 - >The first Teens In Spirit of this year will be held Sunday, October 2;
 - >Eight (8) youth have signed up to help with the upcoming Fall FestFish Fry;
 - >Currently, there are four (4) youth planning to attend the National Catholic Youth Conference in Atlanta, Georgia.
6. **Old Business** – Father will ask Suzanne Schmitz to lead us in another process to

form new goals.

a. **Current Goals and Objectives:** –

“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 & the community.

b. **Capital Campaign**– Father has been in contact with some potential leaders for the Capital Campaign; he will continue to work on this project.

c. **Parish Website Updates:** Parish Website has been keeping up to date. L. Ferraro will send Tom Furby some pictures from the Germany pilgrimage.

d. **Welcome Dinner September 9th**—Discussion was held on the Welcome Dinner that was held on September 9, 1005. Not many new parishioners attended and there was some discussion on continuing this event with such low attendance. There is a lot of work that goes into the preparation for this event. The general consensus was that it was a good thing and Father believes that those who come become more involved in the Parish. Father expressed his appreciation to those who helped with it. It was suggested that next year, invitations should be sent out to those who just completed RCIA, and it was also suggested that those who complete RCIA should be immediately registered as new parishioners.

e. **Registering New Parishioners:** E. Varsa suggested putting a tear-off form in the bulletin that would allow new parishioners to register when they attended Mass. This is similar to B. Balsano’s idea for registration cards in the pews.

f. **New Council Members:** The Council is still short one member. B. Bauman suggested looking at the Time and Talent Stewardship Survey to see if anyone in the parish is interested in serving on the Council.

g. **Parish Picnic—August 28th**—The parish picnic that was held in August went very well; there was a nice crowd there and everyone had a good time.

7. **Committees and Reports**

a. **Heritage Club:** A flyer advertising this group was in the bulletin. The Club has many activities planned for this year. Sister Rosemary will be conducting a retreat for the Heritage Club on November 10.

b. **Liturgy Committee:** There is a meeting for this Wednesday. Items that will be discussed include training liturgical ministers, servers, the liturgy for All Souls’ Day.

- c. **Women's Club:** M. Mitchell reported that the proceeds from the Fall Fest Fish Fry will be given to the Hurricane Katrina Relief fund. There will be a Women's Club meeting on October 6. The next Women's Club meeting will be November 9.
- d. **Knights of Columbus :** E. Varsa reported that the last meeting was a bit better attended. At the meeting, it was decided to continue the Knights for one year and, at the end of the year, to re-visit the viability of the group. E. Varsa will be the Grand Knight for this year, and he remains optimistic about the group. He reported that the Tootsie Roll drive was 'moderately' successful; approximately \$3500 was collected, which is down about \$300 from last year. One reason cited for this was that there was just not enough help with the drive. E. Varsa expressed satisfaction at the youth that did help with the drive and hopefully next year schedules will work out better so that the youth can participate more fully in this event.
- e. **Family Life:** The picnic at Evergreen Park was the last family event; there is an upcoming Family Rosary scheduled for October.
- f. **Community Life – Health Committee:** D. Weaver reported that there will be a health ministry workshop and Yvonne Whitfield will be contacting this committee with that date when it is set.
- g. **Finance Council:** S. Schauwecker reported that there will be an income and expense report in the bulletin; this will be discussed at the Finance Council's meeting on October 12; this will also be an organization meeting for the upcoming year. E. Varsa asked if the special collections donations could also be reported. Father stated that this might be a good year-end report and the Finance Council will discuss doing this.
- h. **Faith Formation:** T. Intravaia gave a report, which may be found as Attachment A to these minutes.
- i. **Building and Grounds** – There is some question on whether the Parish has received the Diocesan engineer evaluation and estimate; Father will investigate this. There is a new retaining wall in place; there has been vandalism to the church (i.e., broken window, tagging, etc.) The police have been called. Because there have been other accounts of vandalism in the immediate area, a neighborhood watch has been proposed. M. Mitchell asked if a report from Trane has been received; it was supposedly emailed to the Parish office. Another question was asked about the grant for lighting. The work for this grant (replacing lights, etc.) has been started.
- j. **Social Justice:** The Newman Center and Saint Francis Xavier Parish will be holding a session on the death penalty on October 23 at 7:00 P.M. Elsie Speck also reported that some hurricane evacuees are being housed in Cobden.
- k. **Youth Representatives:** Please see Item 5.

l. **Saint Andrew School:** D. Weaver reported that two families from the New Orleans area have enrolled in the school. The semester is half over; the Terra Nova tests are scheduled for the first week in October. The school had a float in the Apple Festival; Father asked if the float could be adapted and entered in the Lights Fantastic Parade.

m. **Small Christian Communities:** Sister Rosemary reports that one is very active. She believes that, if we have a mission, that would be a good time to start up some more SCCs.

n. **Organ:** Interest continues in the organ.

o. **Stewardship Committee:** L. Ferraro reported that the third week of the Time and Talent phase of the Stewardship initiative is just concluding. B. Bauman is cataloging the brochure and was acknowledged for his work. Many lay ministers spoke at all the Masses regarding stewardship; thanks to L. Ferraro for organizing this. There were 136 surveys turned in last weekend and B. Bauman has already put them in the computer. B. Bauman will send each contact person a list of interested people. The response rate has not been as great as hoped. The next Stewardship Committee meeting will be Tuesday, September 27 at Saint Andrew.

Thanks to L. Ferraro, B. Bauman and the committee for their work on this project.

p. **Cluster Council:** The Cluster Council was on hiatus this summer. This fall, the Council will regroup and a meeting is scheduled for October.

8. **Communications :** Father Bob continues to get compliments from people regarding the liturgy and the parishioners.

9. **New Business**

a. **Liturgical Ministry Substitutes:** As a reminder, if a person who is scheduled for one of the liturgies can't work that Mass, please try to get a substitute; when all else fails, make sure that Father is informed.

b. **ABA Appeal:** Father urges continuing donations because the Parish will get back ½ of any monies donated over the goal. The overall Diocesan ABA goal has not been met.

c. **Other Matters:** No report.

10. **Pastoral Associate's Report** – Sister Rosemary reported the following:

>Six people are registered for RCIA (4 adults and 2 teens); Sister is in need of three female sponsors;

>There continues to be babysitting at 10:00 Mass; Sister reported that a college volunteer became the answer to her prayers.

>Sister continues to seek new member for the YMPT; although not many people are involved, activities continue to be planned.

>L. Ferraro asked if she could comment on the Germany trip: She reiterated that it was a wonderful experience and that the youth who represented the Parish were 'great'; the influence of T. Intravaia and Sister Rosemary on the development of their faith was very evident. L. Ferraro also thanked the Parish again for all the support that was given to the youth for this trip.

11. **Pastor's Report**--Fr. Bob: There will be many special blessings in October, including blessings for expectant parents, caregivers, anointing of the sick, pro-life Sunday, Priesthood Sunday.

Father also reported that the Newman Center still doesn't have a priest, and he is doing many tasks for them.

12. **NEXT MEETING:** October 24, 7:00 P.M., Xavier Hall

13. **Prayer/Adjournment:** L. Butler adjourned the meeting by asking Sister Rosemary to lead the closing prayer. The meeting ended at 8:43 P.M.

ATTACHMENT A
PSR Report, Toni Intravaia, September 26, 2005

1. Registration for PSR was on August 27th and 28th, but we still registered on September 25th. Also, I have written and called those who enrolled last year but have not registered as yet. At the present we have 153 registered. Joan Looft has been very helpful in registration.
2. My Adult Scripture Class on Tuesdays has 12 registered. We are doing the Paulist Press "Jesus and the Gospels." About 6 come each time.
3. The Children's Liturgy at the 10:00 Mass has about 20 kids attending.
4. Tom Furby is the new eighth grade teacher and is doing a great job.
5. The Catechists had their first meeting and we had Catechist Sunday on September 18th.
6. I was disappointed that very few of the teens helped with the Tootsie Rolle Drive and, unless Sister knows more, I am disappointed that none attended the World Youth Day this past Saturday and Sunday.
7. Now we approach the first meeting of the Teens in Spirit. I have a committee to phone each of the teens and I have a good committee to handle that end. The Graces have called a final meeting to get ready for October 2. The Graces have sent a letter to all teens. I have given suggestions to Sister Rosemary for the ministries for the teens. The Althoff Choir will have the music.
8. October dates for us:
1st and 2nd: Celebrate Youth Weekend
6th: Living Rosary at 7 P.M.
9th: Pet Blessing in carport