

St. Anthony Parish
Pastoral Council

Minutes of the January 25, 2010 Meeting

The opening prayer was offered by Father Art.

The following council members were present this evening:

Mike Hill
Phyllis Brandis
Sue Dorsel
Lloyd Flores
Tom Tallon
Doug Amon
Vince Rolland
Regina Arde
Suzanne Saleeby
Darlene Stowe
Robin Tange
Vincent Santa Maria

The minutes of the previous month's meeting were accepted with the following clarification by Father Art:

The minutes reflected a report on Prayer and Worship, in which Darlene Stowe stated her understanding Father Art felt a Liturgy Committee wasn't necessary.

Father Art clarifies this by stating the minutes should read, there is already an existing Liturgy Committee in place, and at the beginning of every new year, a discussion is held with the heads of Music, Liturgy, Lectors, etc. regarding any and all issues.

The agenda for this evening's meeting was approved.

Mike Hill gave a report on Stewardship. Mike offered his thoughts on some potential new Tuesday night activities, where we "give back" to our parishioners, to foster a greater sense of belonging, which would in turn drive more participation in our parish activities and programs. His primary idea is a variation on the current Wednesday night CCD dinner for students, wherein the whole parish would be invited.

Along those lines, a dinner is planned for Fat Tuesday, February 16, where covered dishes would be brought by the parishioners and the main dish would be provided by the Church.

Sue Dorsel gave a report on Welcoming of New Parishioners. A new updated booklet is being prepared for distribution to new parishioners with all Church information and activities. A wine and cheese event is planned for this March, and the plan is to have one each quarter. Sue plans to gather together a group to approach new parishioners personally and individually to welcome them to St. Anthony's. Father Art suggested that at Mass, new parishioners would be invited to stand up and be welcomed. More bulletin notices are also planned.

Father Art presented a letter he received from Father Luciano, at Holy Trinity Parish in Philippines. The letter contained Father Luciano and his Parish's deep appreciation for the support that St. Anthony has been providing to Holy Trinity, along with the progress certain programs has achieved. Father Art elaborated on the success of the programs mentioned in the letter, from his personal experiences at the Parish. Father Art requested approval from Council to continue to support Holy Trinity Parish. The original 2 years we had pledged to support them has expired.

This request was approved, and Father Art noted Father

Luciano will be returning to Florence on May 22 and 23 this year. Also, it was suggested that any parishioner who requests financial information on the level of support our Parish gives to Holy Trinity be given that information.

Father Art informed Council he had accepted the resignation of council member Jean Pierfy, whose current schedule won't allow her to serve any longer.

Father Art spoke regarding the Bishop's goal for Vocations. The Bishop is asking each Parish priest to make an even greater effort this year because of the growing Catholic population in our state.

All the youth groups will be approached, and the Bishop's #1 concern is for awareness of this growing population, and also a plan to help everyone to recognize this need.

New Business was then discussed.

The Church website needs updating. Phyllis Brandis informed that it is being updated as we meet. New pages should be in place next week. It was suggested we place an ad in the bulletin seeking a webmaster. Father Art suggested this discussion be tabled.

Phyllis Brandis gave a report on Catholic Schools Week and the activities that are planned. She will be speaking at all the Masses on Sunday, a flyer listing all the activities will be included in the bulletin, tours of the school will be offered, an open house is scheduled for Thursday night, the Chapel Choir will sing at 9 AM Mass, Hand Bells will perform at 11 AM Mass, Monday morning the Men's Club will prepare breakfast and the Rosary will be said, and last but not least, Tuesday is Pajama Day. Something is happening every day.

Vincent Santa Maria gave a report on the Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration held recently at St. Anthony. He thinks over 600 people attended, which was twice as many as was expected. The number of non-Spanish speaking attendees

was lower than hoped for. A wonderful time was had by all.

25 people have attended the 1st English Class we are offering to our Spanish-speaking community.

A suggestion was made that our bulletin contain a calendar listing events. Another bulletin notice suggestion was that anyone who wishes to bring the gifts up at Mass, to let us know by calling the office or, being even bolder and approaching one of the ushers and letting them know they would like to participate.

Upcoming Activities:

1/29 Boy Scouts Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

1/30 Work day on school grounds (Volunteers needed)

2/5 BBQ @ St. Ann's

2/12 Valentine Dinner at Knights of Columbus

2/13 St. Anthony's Mardi Gras @ Florence Country Club

2/19 Lenten Fish Fry hosted by Knights of Columbus

Father Art led us in prayer to close our meeting this evening at 8:15 PM.