

September 2014 PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES

(9/8/2014, 6:30-7:30 PM, C+CC Lounge)

<u>Present:</u>	Fr. Edward Kacerguis (Pastor), James Brennan, Katherine Clemente, Kathleen Flynn, Jean Francois, Frederick Gallo, Fran Hyde, Felipe Ortiz, Geena Simila, Robert Thayer, William Webster
<u>Excused</u>	Dn. Joseph Romand, Veronica Ahiati

Fr. Kacerguis opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes and Chair report (J. Brennan):

- May 2014 minutes approved as submitted.
- Mr. Brennan thanked Mr. Gallo for his service as chair.
- The Rensselaer Newman Foundation Board met on June 20. Mr. Brennan and Mr. Gallo attended; Mr. Gallo submitted a report and made a brief presentation describing what the Council has done over the past year. Mr. Brennan was introduced as the new Board Chair.
- The Council is looking for a new Vice Chair.

Pastor's Report (Fr. Kacerguis):

- This was a good summer. The budget year ended well on August 31; the budget for the year was met to within about \$5,000.
- The annual Parish Picnic was very successful.
- There is no full-time chaplain at Samaritan and St. Mary's Hospitals; priests from the Deanery are assigned once every 14 days to cover emergencies.
- The Capital Campaign will become public within about 6 weeks. Everyone is asked to contribute.
- The doors and windows to the building will be worked on over the next year.
- Flyers for events over the upcoming year were distributed to the Council and will go out at appropriate times.
- Members of the field hockey team will be at Masses in two weeks for cheesecake orders.
- There will be a spaghetti dinner fundraiser for the soup kitchen on November 3. The Parish will be providing desserts for about 500 people. There are some volunteers, but others will be sought.
- The Mass schedule will need to be reviewed in conjunction with the other parishes of the cluster (St. Augustine, Our Lady of Victory, Transfiguration, and Christ Sun of Justice) over the next year or so; Transfiguration parish has two locations and no priest, so other priests of the cluster will need to provide coverage.
- The kinks in the email list seem to be worked out, so it is ready to roll out.
- Dee Dziewulski is in the hospital.
- If you are on Facebook, friend or like the Chapel + Cultural Center.

Newman Fellowship Report (G. Simila):

- The first event for the year was a root beer social held for new students on August 23. About 15 people attended; there was a smaller turnout across the board this year.
- The first meeting was an ice breaker held on September 4; about 15 people attended. The next meeting will be held this Thursday.
- The first dinner was last night; about 35 people attended.
- There is an outing to a drive-in theater planned as a social event on Friday; in case of inclement weather, this will be changed to a movie night.
- The annual fall Retreat will be held in about two weeks at St. Mary's on the Lake in Lake George. Ms. Simila and Emily Farella will be leading. Five people have signed up; there are ice-breaker questions on the sign-up sheet, so sign-up is taking longer than usual.
- An Alumni Brunch is being planned for October 12 (Reunion/Homecoming Weekend) after the 10:30 Mass.

Knights of Columbus Report (F. Ortiz):

- The Chapter won awards for service and membership increase, as well as the Circle of Honor, given out to only 14 Councils in New York State.
- Georges Jaar may be representing the Knights to the Pastoral Council and should be added to the mailing list.

- There was a lot of interest at the Activities Fair. There will be a social event for prospective new members in conjunction with tomorrow's meeting.
- There will be a Ten Year Reunion to celebrate the Knights' anniversary at the end of October.

Vice-Chair Report (J. Brennan):

- The Vice Chair position is currently vacant and the Council is seeking someone to fill that role.

Secretary Report (R.Thayer):

- This is Mr. Thayer's last year on the Council; anyone interested in replacing him as Secretary should speak to him or to Mr. Brennan.

Old Business:

- Parish fundraiser (F. Gallo): Paul Kraus has taken the lead on this and is working closely with Tom Mattern; the event is still going forward, but there is no further news to report.
- New members for the Council (J. Brennan): The Council needs to think about recruiting new members.
- Welcome Picnic (J. Francois): Ms. Francois thanked all who participated in the picnic. There was so much help that set-up only took 40 minutes, and clean-up went particularly smoothly. Turnout was good for the meal, but low for the activity. All participants got a gift card. There were 16 questions, which was more than was necessary; answers to the questions asked in the activity were given to Mr. Mattern for use on the Parish website.
- Soup Kitchen (J. Francois): Beverley Valente's sister in Florida knits and sends scarves back here. She sent about 40 scarves which will be given out as Christmas gifts at the Soup Kitchen. Ms. Francois is sending her yarn. There may also be a collection of personal care items to be given out as Christmas gifts at the Soup Kitchen.

New Business:

- Coffee Hour (Mr. Gallo): The December Coffee Hour (December 14 after the 10:30 Mass) has not yet been filled. Mr. Gallo recommended that the Council host and recruit new members. The Council agreed.
- Distribution List (Mr. Brennan): The Council should have a distribution list. Please email your name, email address, and phone number to Mr. Brennan at brennanj@nycap.rr.com.
- Fundraiser (Mr. Brennan): The company that provides sacramental wine to parishes also provides the opportunity for a wine-tasting fundraiser. There would be a minimal amount of work for the Parish beyond publicity, for which the company provides materials. The Parish keeps whatever is raised by selling tickets. The program has been well-received elsewhere.
- Meeting Schedule: The Council agreed to meet at 6:30 on the following Wednesdays in 2014: October 8, November 5, and December 3. Additionally, the Council will meet at 6:30 on Wednesday, January 28.
- Ornament Sale (W. Webster): Mr. Webster would like to hold a second annual Ornament Sale to raise money for St. James School, tentatively on the weekend of December 14.

The meeting concluded with prayer by Mr. Ortiz.

Submitted By: Robert Thayer