

October 2014 PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES
(10/8/2014, 6:30-7:30 PM, Hospitality House)

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

Fr. Kacerguis opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes and Chair report (J. Brennan):

- September 2014 minutes approved as submitted.
- The Rensselaer Newman Foundation Board will meet on November 7.
- Mr. Brennan reached out to the organization that sponsors the wine tasting fundraisers. There are no dates available in the fall of 2014, and April 2015 does not work for the C+CC. They will be back in this area in early October 2015 and will contact us regarding availability. Mrs. Brennan has volunteered to coordinate and will be looking for volunteers. This event may be combined with a chocolate or cheese tasting.

Pastor's Report (Fr. Kacerguis):

- The email list is running. A trial run worked perfectly.
- There will be a spaghetti dinner fundraiser for the soup kitchen on November 3 (the Monday before Election Day) at the Italian Community Center. Tickets are \$10; children under 5 are free. Profits will support the soup kitchen, scholarship at LaSalle, and food pantries at participating parishes. The portion received by Christ Sun of Justice Parish will be used to purchase food and holiday dinner gift baskets for children for Christmas and Easter. The Parish will be providing desserts for about 500 people. A request for donations of cupcakes and brownies will be made at the Masses on the weekend of November 1.
- October count: Every parish and chapel around the country will count attendance at every Mass in October by type of Mass. This will be part of the consideration for future priest staffing.
- Finances are stable.
- Windows upstairs are being cleaned inside and out this week. The work will be finished on Friday.
- This weekend will be Alumni Weekend. Next weekend will be Family Weekend. Thanksgiving is coming in November.
- Fr. Kacerguis will be very busy over the next 2 weeks with several weddings for RPI people.

Newman Fellowship Report (G. Simila):

- About 16 people attended the retreat, led by Emily Farella and Ms. Simila. The weather was good and no one got lost. The event was well received.
- In addition to regular meetings, the Fellowship joined the Knights of Columbus for the Rosary at the Cathedral on Sunday and will be hosting the Alumni Weekend brunch this weekend. There is an officer meeting tonight.
- Next weekend the Fellowship is planning to go apple picking, but the farm has no apples, so suggestions are sought for alternate locations.
- Apple pies and crisps will be sold after Masses and during the Coffee Hour on Family Weekend with the Knights.
- Average attendance has been 10-15 at meetings and 25-30 at dinners.

Knights of Columbus Report (F. Ortiz):

- The Knights will be hosting a Coffee Hour with the Newman Fellowship and are planning 2 joint meetings.
- There will be a Ten Year Reunion on October 18. This is the available date closest to the tenth anniversary of the Council's founding.
- The Joseph's House dinner will be held on November 22. All are welcome to help.

Vice-Chair Report:

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

Secretary Report (R.Thayer):

- No report.

Old Business:

- Soup Kitchen (J. Brennan): Requests will be made for gifts for the Christmas dinner and personal care products. It was suggested that the requests be made together so people don't feel overwhelmed.
- Christmas Ornaments (W. Webster): Projects are underway; the event may be a little smaller than last year.
- Parish fundraiser (J. Brennan): Paul Kraus is unable to take the lead on this event, which is still a general concept and does not have a particular focus. The suggestion was made to refocus the idea as the wine tasting event with other components.
- Halloween (Fr. Kacerguis): There will be no Halloween event this year as All Saints Day is on a Saturday and is not a holy day of obligation this year.

New Business:

- None.

The meeting concluded with prayer by Mr. Gallo.

Submitted By: Robert Thayer