

OCTOBER 2008 PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES

(10/8/08, 6:00-7:00 PM, C+CC Lounge)

<u>Present:</u>	Jim Brennan, Harry Cooke, Wilson Crone, David Dziewulski, Jacquie Fable, Frederick Gallo, Fran Hyde, Paul Kraus, Joe Grimaldi, Fr. Ed Kacerguis (Pastor), Marianne Monastero, Kelly Rigby, Marie Venaglia (Chaplain), Brenda Williams (Chair)
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The meeting began with prayer led by Mr. Gallo.

Chair Report:

- Approval of September 10, 2008 minutes with corrections. Mr. Crone will incorporate them and send to Jill Wishon for posting on the C+ CC web site.

Pastor's Report:

- Status of Social Action Committee. Jean Francoise has agreed to coordinate the committee and its multiple activities. As part of this changeover, the Council was asked to consider volunteering for/recruiting a parishioner to direct a number of the outreach programs.
 - Chair of Christmas basket activities. Martha Walsh, the long-time chair, will assist, but is looking to relinquish her role.
 - Chair of weekly Eucharistic ministry and Easter lily deliveries to shut-ins. Kathy Spain, the long-time chair, is looking to relinquish her role as leader for these activities.
 - In addition, the parish has been asked to assist a parish neighbor with Alzheimer disease, with several parishioners making a commitment for weekly visits in a respite mode for caretakers. This is in regards to a model of a number of social services organizations relying on religious groups in order to extend services.
 - Clothe-A-Child is a year-round effort spearheaded by Fr. Kacerguis, and involves a number of activities. For example, parishioner Jenna Kekulka distributed scarves collecting at the September Welcome Picnic to needy students at School 16 in Troy.
- Upcoming events include:
 - 10/18/08: Family Weekend, with a wine and cheese reception following the Saturday Mass, and a special coffee hour presented by the Rensselaer Newman Fellowship and Knights of Columbus
 - 10/24/08: annual meeting of the Rensselaer Newman Foundation, and award of the Sun and Balance Award to the C+CC architect Peter Levatich and Building Committee Chair William Drunic
 - 11/1/08: All Saints' Day will not be a Day of Obligation this year, as it falls on a Saturday; no Halloween Party and Midnight Mass this year.
 - November: remembrance of All Souls; the Memorial Fund is the parish system to support a Mass Card and pay for liturgical items.
 - 11/26/08: Thanksgiving Eve service and meal will parallel previous years, with Mass and a simple meal. Students in the area will have a number of opportunities to match up with parishioners for a Thanksgiving meal if there is interest.
- Two individuals to keep in prayers because of illness:
 - Mary Harrison, RCDA Office for "Called to be Church"
 - Margaret Leatham, former C+CC Chaplain

Chaplain's Report:

Meetings and RPI Events:

- 9/21/08: led Liturgical Ministers' Training.
- 9/23/08: attended Rensselaer County Deanery meeting.

- 9/27/08: participated in RPI Open House.
- 10/4/08: attended opening weekend of EMPAC.
- 10/7/08: annual Town/Gown Breakfast at the C+CC.
- 10/11/08: EMPAC and Rensselaer Medalist's Day.
- 11/1/08: additional Open House.

Faith Formation:

- 10/1/08: book group discussing *Our Lady of the Lost and Found* by Diane Schoemperlen. Upcoming book group will focus on homilies and liturgies from Pope Benedict XVI.
- 10/4/08: met with Catechetical Leaders to prepare for a catechist formation/continuing education program to be offered by the Rensselaer County Catechetical Leaders on Thursday, October 23 at St. Mary's in Clinton Heights. In addition, ongoing meetings with area catechetical leaders to plan for intergenerational faith formation in our local area.
- 10/5/08: first GIFT session, with topics of Mary and the Rosary.
- 10/25/08: Parish Convening @ CBA.
- In terms of other events in Rensselaer County:
 - Deanery at St. William's Church.
 - New Catholic Charities focus with Unity House and Roarke Center, addressing issues of hidden rural poverty in the county.

Knights of Columbus Report (J. Grimaldi)

- 9/17/08: College KOC Conference at New Haven (<http://www.kofc.org/un/eb/en/members/knights/college/index.html>). Workshops focused on organizational and recruitment issues.
- 10/1/08: video games night.
- 10/18/08: coffee hour in conjunction with Rensselaer Newman Foundation.
- 11/9/08 and subsequent weekends: OTC medical donations and Price Chopper grocery cards to Emmaus House. Winter: over the counter medications for Joseph's House.
- Upcoming:
 - Defensive driving course
 - "Keep Christ in Christmas" magnets
 - "Rock Band" video game tournament

Newman Fellowship Report (F. Gallo):

- In general, Thursday meetings are drawing 16 to 20 participants, and dinners with approximately 25 participants.
- 10/2/08: suicide prevention workshop.
- 10/9/08: encouragement for Newman Fellowship members to lead meetings.
- 10/16/08: presentation from Joseph's House and voluntary life of poverty. Five Fellowship students went over to Emmaus House to prepare dinner.
- 10/19/08: Family Weekend; Coffee Hour; apple pie fundraiser as service project for October.
- 11/14/08: a praise night in conjunction with Alpha Omega (union of Christian groups at RPI).
- November upcoming events: Clothe-A-Child and Albertus Magnus dinner for nominated faculty.
- Spring 2009 retreat: coordinated by Matt Callahan. Future alumni retreats may be spaced out.

Parish Life Committee (J. Brennan):

- Upcoming in January:
 - Ladies' dinner.
 - Movie night (comparing offerings with UPAC schedule: <http://cinema.union.rpi.edu/>)
 - Will need to organize group, e.g., meeting after Mass.

The meeting concluded with prayer led by Ms. Fable.

Submitted By: Wilson Crone