

**NOVEMBER 2009 PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES**  
(11/11/09, 6:05-6:55 PM, C+CC Lounge)

<u>Present:</u>	Matt Callaghan, Harry Cooke, Wilson Crone, David Dziewulski, Fr. Edward Kacerguis (Pastor), Paul Kraus, Marianne Monastero, Kelly Rigby, Brenda Williams (Chair), Christian Schenkelberg
<u>Excused</u>	Jacqueline Fable, Joseph Grimaldi, Fran Hyde

Mr. Kraus opened the meeting with prayer.

**Chair Report** (B. Williams):

- Roll call
- No additional agenda items
- Approval of September 9, 2009 minutes with minor corrections. Mr. Crone will incorporate the changes and send them to Jill Wishon for posting on the C+ CC web site.

**Pastor's Report** (Fr. Kacerguis):

- Ongoing “Called to be Church” process continues to affect Troy. With the upcoming closure of St. Patrick’s Cathedral in North Troy, there is a demonstrable need for Social Services in the North Central region of St. Patrick’s, e.g., pantry requests. Part of the process is working through both the cluster as well as the Troy city parishes to map out coverage of services, as often, only a few agencies, e.g., Catholic Charities, know what is available.
- In addition, the Diocese continues to monitor the viability of Catholic schools.
- 10/3/09; 10/25/09: Alumni weekend and Family weekend, respectively, with positive feedback from the extra coffee hours and other activities. There was noticeably higher attendance numbers at those weekend services.
- 10/16/09: Sr. Clarice was the speaker at the Committee of 100 dinner (honoring the Brennan family with the Sun and Balance Award). The next Sun and Balance newsletter will highlight her presentation.
- 11/25/09: Thanksgiving Eve service. Typically, there has been a steady attendance of 60.
- 11/29/09: Advent starts.
- 12/4-5/09: Clothe-a-Child drive, with Friday night collection with young people at the game (Cornell Whiteout game scheduled). This fundraising effort usually nets around \$400-500.
- “Shoes for the Shoeless” drive close to 400 pairs collected.
- \$1500 collection for Philippines tsunami relief.
- Upcoming Christmas Basket signup, Advent Penance service, and Christmas services all being planned.
- Currently, the parish has registered 165 families and 200 students. Such registration is important for sacraments, e.g., Confirmation.
- Bulk mailings for the 12180 to 12182 zip codes will be sent after Thanksgiving as an invitation to the local community. Ongoing registration efforts will help to track attendance, e.g., two to three new people at the 9 am Mass each week. October is the formal count month for the Diocese (with acknowledgement that special events, e.g., Family Weekend, do skew attendance numbers).
- Should there be additional signs at the Chapel that the services are Catholic? While this might enhance attendance, it compromises other issues, e.g., the multipurpose of the space.
- Finances at the parish are tight, although the bills are currently covered. A large downturn in the April alumni collection has particularly affected the budget (as that time has affected the budgets of other non-profits as well).

- Regarding collections: many churches list in their bulletins what the targets are. Should that be done here? While not a tradition at the C+CC, Fr. Kacerguis will bring that up to the Foundation as a way to highlight target goals. Online donations are available through the web site, although the intermediary (Network for Good) does charge a service fee.
- GIFT education efforts with Sr. Clarice are ongoing for the parish, as no one else is doing it in Troy.

Knights of Columbus Report (C. Schenkelberg):

- Four new members, two at First Degree, two at Second Degree.
- Two holy hours offered, at 10/19/09 (Feast of the North American Martyrs) and 11/2/09 (All Soul's), involving rosary and reflection.
- "Keep Christ in Christmas magnets" on sale, with enough proceeds to support Emmaus House efforts (additional inventory available from the Cohoes Council). Donations may take the form of food this year, depending on needs.
- Due to inclement weather, the goal of painting Hospitality House will be rescheduled for the spring.
- 10/20/09: five year anniversary of the RPI Council, with a fifth straight Columbian Award for meeting or exceeding service goals.
- Additional goals of participating at each C+CC Mass as a group, and holding at least one Holy Hour per term.

Newman Fellowship Report (M. Monastero):

- Many activities in October, including:
- 10/10/09: Corn Maze trip.
- 10/16/09: Fall retreat.
- 10/19/09: apple picking, for 10/22/09 baking and 10/25/09 selling of pies and crisps
- 10/25/09: coffee hour hosted with Knights of Columbus.
- 11/4/09: Emmaus House trip
- 11/7/09: ice skating with Alpha Omega.
- Prayer group instituted.
- Upcoming: create cards for shut ins; planning for spring service trip to Philadelphia.

Parish Life Committee:

- 11/16/09, new roof and dormer for Hospitality House.
- Ongoing need to recruit a person to head the Parish Life Committee. One activity may aimed for adult parishioners with Sr. Clarice, e.g., here or in Hospitality House, with a possibility of following a Lenten Speakers presentation with a weekend retreat on that theme.
- December: Tim Janis (<http://www.timjanis.com/>) will be at Carondelet, as a possible inspirational parish activity.
- In summary, Fr. Kacerguis pointed out that for a small parish, much is going on.

The meeting concluded with prayer by Mr. Kraus.

Submitted By: Wilson Crone