

Blessed Sacrament Parish aspires to be a model Christian community, disciples of Christ, in communion with the universal church, in service to each other and our greater communities.

We speak with diverse and inclusive voices, united by our Catholic Faith and Eucharistic Celebration.

**BLESSED SACRAMENT CATHOLIC CHURCH
PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES
January 9, 2010**

PRESENT: Fr. Tom Mattingly, Deacon Fred LaSpina, Kim Maggiolo, Yolanda Blake, Liz McDavid, George Collins, Hillary James, Pam Murphy, Marcia Pearce, Colleen Slipka, Louisa Cahan, Joe Goldsmith

ABSENT: Lorena Sanchez, Chip Studwell, Maria Pena Taylor, Pete Adams, Scott Hammond, Cathy McClatchy

The meeting was called to order at 9:10AM, with a prayer led by Yolanda.

Raffle Update

Pete Adams had e-mailed a report that in the first week, we had already collected about 20% of the total amount we hope to collect in our TV Raffle. It is expected that the bulk of contributions will come in at "the last minute". He also asked that this raffle be really promoted to the Spanish congregation. Yolanda said she would work on this. Tickets would continue to be sold after all the Masses by members of Parish Council. The drawing will be held on January 31st.

Wine & Cheese Fund Raiser Event

Our annual Valentine's Wine and Cheese Event will be held on February 11th. Kim Maggiolo will be in charge of buying, preparing and getting the foods served, with the help of volunteers. Parish Council members were all asked to donate \$20 for the purchase of foods. Members who volunteered to help with the food prep and serving are: George, Hillary, Louisa and Scott. Kim advised people to dress in black and white and low, comfortable shoes. Tickets will go on sale this weekend after Masses.

Bridge Building

Yolanda said that with so much going on, the Committee had not had a chance to meet, but Pete was working on a pamphlet with information on the Familia-Amigos/ Family-Friends program that we want to start. No date to begin has been set. Fr. Tom advised that it must be started by the first weekend in February to have a chance to succeed, before summer vacation time sets in.

Voice of the Pastor

Christmas Mass: The 4:00 PM Christmas Eve Mass was so overcrowded, with the commons packed and there were about 50 people in the basement attending the Mass on that tv screen. The 6PM Hispanic Mass had about 150 families in attendance - next year we will celebrate a bi-lingual Mass at 6PM, and we can hope that this does away with some of the overcrowding at the first Mass.

Coordinator of Spanish Ministry: We are looking for someone to sub for Graciela Pinedo for 6 weeks, beginning sometime in February. This person would have to be here legally, with permission to work in the USA. Yolanda suggested Maria _____ who assists in the Religious Ed program, and Fr. Tom said he would like to talk to her.

Parking Deck: There is a city business group that is meeting to discuss making the parking deck on Wolfe Street into a private parking lot. We will be meeting with some of these people to see what their plan is, and whether or not we could support it, or need to fight it. City Council is not supporting it as of now.

The Simmons Building: We are still trying to get some room in the building across the street that had the gym in it. When Pete Adams gets back to town, we will be working on a proposal to rent a portion of it, to use for our food pantry and even a small thrift shop, but most importantly so that we would have the ability to park over there.

Parish Retreat: I have put a proposal to some of the people involved in Cursillo to organize a parish retreat - a Friday dinner, talks, reflection; Saturday, small groups, witness talks, etc., followed by 5PM Mass. I have told them that this could not just be a benefit to the parish, but they could also promote attendance at Cursillo Retreats with those who attend. Waiting to hear back from them.

Gift Wrapping Update

Though we got a late start, and even had a snowed out weekend, our gift wrapper volunteers at the Mall, cleared over \$1,000.00 for our Building Fund. More of the gift wrapping took place in the last week before Christmas. Much discussion followed. Next year we hope to have more preparation time, with better organization and information distributed; and make more money.

Tamale Sale Update

Yolanda reported that \$1,000.00 was raised in the recent Tamale sale for the Building Fund. She also told us that there is a parishioner that is interested in doing a Chinese food sale. Plans will need to be made on the cost and the amount of food to be made, and the price, to make a profit on this new idea. Some discussion followed regarding different nationality food sales, such as Italian and Irish, Greek. Currently, some kind of lunch is being planned for the Raffle Drawing at midday on January 31st.

Youth Minister Search

A Job Description is being worked on to start advertising for our full time Youth Minister Search. It has been decided that we need to have a young adult on the Search Committee. The position is scheduled to start on July 1, 2010.

Young Adult Ministry

Joe Goldsmith has been working with getting this group together and some nice things have happened. However, I am challenging Joe to get the leadership of this group out of his hands, so that the group doesn't disappear when he returns to Catholic University.

Eritrean Families

Hillary James reported that things were going well for the original family, the father, Kini, has a job at Pilgrim's Pride. Ashunda, the mother, is doing volunteer work at Salvation Army, and she is pregnant. There are always more challenges. Our new family, Balo, Ashunda's sister, and her five children are living at Mercy House temporarily. Our group of parishioner volunteers is continuing to work on getting the families all set up with social services and the schools, job search, and things are moving along.

Discernment for Members

Kim reminded us that we will have to soon hold a discernment day for new Parish Council Members. Currently, there are four members who will be finishing their 3 year terms, and one alternate who has not been able to attend meetings. Kim suggested that the Discernment be held the weekend after Easter, April 10th. So, we will soon be needing people to volunteer or be nominated for positions on the Parish Council.

Continuing Ed

Louisa Cahan informed us about a Diocesan Pilot Project on Adult Education that will use member of our parish to begin. She is gdtting a gorup of people together to help decide what it is that Catholic adults need and want to learn.

Bishop's Visit

Our bishop is planning to visit our parish on March 7th, and meet with the Hispanic parishioners regarding their wants and needs. It had been requested on his last visit, that a Spanish speaking priest come to our parish at least once a month to celebrate Mass and hear confessions.

Food Pantry

We were just given \$3,000 from Wells Fargo, for our food pantry, which helps over 500 families per month.

HARTS

Due to the really cold winter, and to some additional funding, HARTS has been extended through April 2010. This is the night time shelter for the homeless run in many churches in our area. This year, we sponsored it at the CCM house, due to better handicapped facilities.

Kim asked for volunteers for next meeting's opening and closing prayers. Louisa volunteered for the opening, and Hillary for the closing.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 10:45 AM, with prayer led by Kim Maggiolo.

Respectfully submitted by:

Liz McDavid
P.C. Secretary

Next Meeting: February 13, 2010 @ 9AM