

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  
March 14, 2009**

**PRESENT:** Fr. Tom Mattingly, Randy Hook, Chris Pipkins, Yolanda Blake, George Collins, Keith Holzer, Kim Maggiolo, Cathy McClatchy, Liz McDavid, Mindy Morrison, Rex Moyers, Pam Murphy, Marcia Pearce, Maria Pena Taylor, Deacon Fred LaSpina

**ABSENT:** Kilders Giron, Chip Studwell

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

Commitment Sunday

March 21& 22 will be considered Commitment Day for the parishioners' pledges. The pledge forms were to be mailed out today, or tomorrow. Signs or placards would be held up by members of the congregation at Mass during the Prayers of the Faithful, so that parishioners have a graphic image of what we are needing and praying for. These signs would then be placed in the commons as reminders of their pledges and the reasons we are doing this. Sign up sheet was passed around. Parish council members should have their pledges turned in by today, and if they hadn't been, to please do it by tomorrow. It is expected that Parish Council can say it has 100% participation from members in FY 2009 and FY 2010.

It was also noted that there would be Burritos for sale after the 5pm, 10AM and 1PM Masses next week.

Walk By Faith

Council reviewed the diocese planning booklet, "We Walk By Faith." Council members leading the "walk" noted that they were compiling a survey that they would distribute to parishioners in September (prior notice to parishioners will be made), for Council to review responses in October, prior to the Bishop's visit in November.

Discernment

Discernment for new Council Members would be April 4<sup>th</sup> from 1-3 PM. Randy Hook, Kim Maggiolo and Chris Pipkins are facilitating this meeting. Announcements and invitations of nominees will take place at this weekend's Masses. Four new members and one alternate are needed for the new year, which will begin with our May 8<sup>th</sup> meeting at pot luck supper in Church basement. It is hoped that the parish will be well represented, with various talents, ages, nationalities and Masses. Letters inviting nominees to discernment need to go out by March 25<sup>th</sup>.

Chris made the motion that the vote for Executive Committee (Chair, Co-Chair and Secretary) take place at the April 4<sup>th</sup> Pastoral Council Meeting. This motion was approved unanimously. He then noted the leadership issues on the agenda to carry into 2010. They were – continuation of strategic plan, integration of parish mission statement across the parish, and improved organization of council subcommittees.

#### Parish Picnic

The parish picnic would be held on church grounds on June 7<sup>th</sup>. Rex Moyers and Yolanda Blake agreed to chair the planning committee. Council suggested that they come up with a name for this event.

#### Committee Reports

##### Event – Easter Vigil Reception

This year we have 3 adults and 13 Hispanic children being baptized. Kim and Rex will be in charge of the reception. It was noted that there was money in the budget for the reception, and Rex will ask Ernie what that amount is, and he will email Kim with the information.

##### Bridge Committee

Marcia Pearce said she had met with Martha Moyers and reviewed our church computer data base, and had gotten a Training Manual which she copied for herself and Yolanda and hoped to use in working on this talent data base for volunteerism. She hopes to be able to get to use a computer in the office. Chris Pipkins volunteered to help if needed.

#### Voice of the Pastor

Parish Life – there is some frustration about the lack of participation of parishioners in parish events, there is usually a core group who takes part in things, but no interest or commitment from others.

We must stress the real need for J-Hall and office safety and improvement. Parishioners need to be made aware of this; there are many who are totally unaware of the poor condition of our facilities. It is absolutely necessary to get the building campaign started now, despite the rough economic times.

#### Voice of Council

Council read an unsigned letter dropped in the suggestion box that asked about what the parish was doing for parishioners affected with job losses in the current economic downturn. Parish Council's practice is to respond to signed letters only, but made an exception due to the currency of this issue. These notes serve as the record of that response: the parish is ill equipped to provide career or job counseling and are happy to refer people in search of this service to the professionals at the various Employment Agencies in town – Virginia Employment Commission, Va Job Services, et al.

The Council Members divided into two groups to review “Word” and “Worship” questions in the “Walk By Faith” booklets; meeting to resume in about 20 minutes.

Next month’s agenda will include:

Budget Review by Rosie Nicholson

Walk By Faith Draft

Vote on Executive Committee

The Meeting was closed with prayer led by Keith Holzer.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Liz McDavid  
P.C. Secretary

Reminder : **Sat., April 4<sup>th</sup>** - 9AM Mass, followed by the Council Meeting

Discernment Meeting 1-3 PM