

Church of St. Thomas More  
**Minutes of Pastoral Council Meeting**  
**Date: August 26, 2008**

Doug D'Agrosa called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**1. Opening Prayer**

Father Mike led the opening prayer.

**2. Roll Call**

Those on the Parish Council in attendance were

| <b>Name</b>                         | <b>Role</b>                            |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Rev. Michael Ratajczak              | Pastor                                 |
| Doug D'Agrosa                       | Pastoral Council Chair                 |
| Cathy Zych                          | Secretary                              |
| Rory Griffin                        | Faith Formation & Evangelization Chair |
| Suzee Irwin                         | Social Ministries Chair                |
| Paul Ibbetson                       | Finance Chair                          |
| <b>Those not in Attendance were</b> |  |
| POSITION OPEN                       | Parish Organizations & Events Chair    |
| Ron Briseno                         | Development Council Chair              |
| Douglas Lynn (excused)              | Liturgy                                |
|                                     |  |

**3. Agenda Review**

**4. Old Business**

Social Ministries: Discussion regarding concern for the many requests of donations during the Christmas season. Suzee will look at spreading out and tying to the season (for example Birth Choice during May for Mother's Day) on the 2009 calendar.

**5. New Business**

Pastoral Council members were asked to think about how we can attract more parishioners to STM and to help people become aware that we are here in the community. It was suggested and agreed that this item would be a standing item on the agenda under old business.

**6. Committee Updates**

## **Evangelization and Faith Formation Committee**

### RCIA:

- At STM we have six candidates and catechumens currently in our RCIA process. Since we had a short time before Easter this year, our current group will celebrate the Easter Sacraments in 2009.
- Deacon Tom and Pat will be doing Rediscovering Catholicism beginning December 2, 2008. It will fulfill the education requirements for all adults needed or wanting Confirmation.

### Religious Education for Adolescents and Children:

R.E.A.C.H. is in the process of signing up students and preparing for classes to start on September 7<sup>th</sup>.

### Adult Religious Education Committee:

- The 2008-2009 brochure explaining and advertising the events has been distributed by mail to all parishioners.
- Bookies meetings and Prayer Breakfasts with speakers have been planned.
- Our Parish Mission beginning on March 29<sup>th</sup> is in the planning stages.

### Middle School Youth Ministry:

- Two summer session activities: Bowling Bash and Carwash were well attended by our 6 to 8 grade students.
- Over the summer session, meetings were cut back to 1 meeting per month and everyone was encouraged to attend Monday Night Mass.

### High School and Young Adult Women Ministries:

- Steubenville San Diego was a success with 61 students and adults from STM parish attending. Following the experience a reunion was held a week later at the Schanzenbach's home.

### Sacramental Preparation:

We are in the process of signing up students and preparing for classes to start on September 7<sup>th</sup>.

## **Finance Council**

No new information to report.

## **Development Council**

- The Capital Campaign is doing well with 90% of our households contributing.
- New Member Reception is scheduled for Sunday, October 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Stewardship Awareness Month is in November. The theme will be "Living Stones" which means the parishioners that make up our faith community are the living stones of our church.
- Scrip sales continue to help raise money for our new church.
- The next issue of Our Tower newsletter will be January 09.

## **Social Ministries**

- Patt and Deacon Tom Goeltz will sponsor a toiletry drive for Brother Benno's.
- More's Workers have painted and cleaned several apartment units to be inhabited by lower income people.
- More volunteers are needed to take the elderly to church. A bulletin notice will be placed to ask for volunteer support.

## **Marriage and Family Life**

No new information to report.

## **PO&E**

## **Liturgy Committee**

### **7. Upcoming Events for PR Release**

Contact Anne Marshall if needed.

### **8. Emerging Issues**

There were no issues to discuss.

### **9. Clergy Comments**

- A financial audit was completed and this went well. We were told our audit was the best in the diocese.
- A meeting with the Liturgical and Architectural committees was held last week. Our liturgical consultant, Robert Habiger, continues to develop the liturgical program for the new church with the assistance of the interior design team.
- Father Mike is "Pro-Tem Administrator" at St. Francis while Father Ramon recovers from surgery.

### **10. Closing Prayer**

Led by Father Mike.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm

Our next Pastoral Council Meeting is Tuesday, November 18. Cathy Zych will lead the opening and closing prayer.