

Church of St. Thomas More  
**Minutes of Pastoral Council Meeting**  
**Date: November 18, 2008**

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

**1. Opening Prayer**

Cathy Zych 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
Ron Briseno	Development Council Chair
<b>Those not in Attendance were</b>	
POSITION OPEN	Parish Organizations & Events Chair
Kalei/Paul Mendiola	Marriage and Family Life Chair
Douglas Lynn (excused)	Liturgy

**3. Agenda Review**

**4. Old 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.

**5. New Business**

The Evangelization position is vacant.

**6. Committee Updates**

**Evangelization and Faith Formation Committee**

RCIA:

- At STM we have six candidates and catechumens currently in our RCIA process.

- 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:

No report.

#### Adult Religious Education Committee:

- The second Fr. Mike's Bookies meeting on November 5<sup>th</sup> was led by Doug Lynn. The next event on January 7<sup>th</sup>, *Food & Faith: Justice, Joy and Daily Bread* to be led by Gale Gibbons.
- Women's prayer breakfast was successful on October 11<sup>th</sup> with 50 women attending and an inspiring talk by Dotti Hulburt.
- Our Parish Mission beginning on March 29<sup>th</sup> is in the planning stages.

#### Middle School Youth Ministry:

- Continuing to meet on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday's of each month. A Halloween party was successful with 100 attending.
- The PUSH 1<sup>st</sup> annual Talent Show will be next week.
- Will soon be starting our Stand Up for Kids-Christmas Backpack Drive.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of Monday night Mass will be next Monday. A large turnout is anticipated and cake will be provided following Mass.

#### High School and Young Adult Women Ministries:

- High School Youth Group continues
- Adoration is on 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday
- Huggy Buddies drive begins in December.
- Retreat planning for January is underway. The theme is "Be the Change".

#### Liturgy of the Word for Children

- LOWC is doing well.
- A new assistant, Lauren Brickley, is helping with LOWC.
- Children's activity handouts are available after all Masses for children ages 3-6 and 7-12.

#### Sacramental Preparation:

Twenty-six candidates are preparing for confirmation. Bishop Chavez will be at STM to celebrate Mass on Pentecost Sunday at the 10:30 Mass.

#### **Finance Council**

No new information to report.

#### **Development Council**

- Beginning in January, a restaurant fundraiser with proceeds to STM building fund. Each month a different local restaurant will be featured.

- New membership luncheons are scheduled for March 1, 2009 and October 4, 2009. 48 people attended the previous luncheon.

### **Social Ministries**

- Patt and Deacon Tom Goeltz will sponsor a clothing drive.
- A master schedule with calendar will be developed for 2009 for STM charitable contributions. For example Huggy Buddies might move to September 13<sup>th</sup>, which is Grandparents Day.
- More volunteers are needed to take the elderly to church. A concern was expressed about liability of STM if an accident occurs. A suggestion that further study is necessary and questions should be addressed to insurance carrier for STM before a final decision is made.
- Father Mike suggested with economic downturn that the local charities need food items and their pantries have low supplies. STM could support this need by suggesting parishioners bring a canned food item to church on Sundays.
- Six families have been adopted for our Christmas Angels this December.

### **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**

- Father Mike gave update on the progress of our building program. The liturgical consultant and architect are continuing to do all the preliminary work.

#### **10. Closing Prayer**

Led by Cathy Zych

Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm

Our next Pastoral Council meeting is February 4, 2009. Doug D'Agrosa will lead the opening and closing prayer.

