

Church of St. Thomas More
Minutes of Pastoral Council Meeting
Date: November 4, 2009

Doug D'Agrosa called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

1. Opening Prayer

Marti Harper led the opening prayer.

2. Roll Call

Those on the Parish Council in attendance were:

Name	Role
Rev. Michael Ratajczak	Pastor
Doug D'Agrosa	Pastoral Council Chair
Marti Harper	Secretary
Rory Griffin	Faith Formation & Evangelization Chair
Ron Briseno	Development Council Chair
Dick & Charlene Belprez	Social Ministries Chair
Chris Smith	Director of Stewardship and Development
Those not in attendance were	
Kathy Arciero	Liturgy Committee Liaison
Paul Ibbetson	Finance Chair
POSITION OPEN	Parish Organizations & Events Chair
Jennifer Frost	Marriage and Family Life Chair

3. Agenda Review

4. Council Member Updates

5. Old Business

Stewardship Awareness

Chris Smith provided the council with updated Parish Community Life brochures which will be handed out at all Masses and, as always, available in the Parish Office. Continuing with the Living Stones theme, new stones will be available with the names of incoming parishioners. Lay witness talks and ministry displays on the plaza will take place the weekend of Nov. 14th & 15th. The Development Council, Faith Formation, Social Ministries and Liturgy Committee will be represented on the

plaza. Their respective ministry boards will also be on display at the November 22nd, Stewardship Appreciation Reception from 3-5pm.

Capital Campaign

In the last two weeks, Leadership Receptions were held for Parishioners who are significant financial donors to our Parish. 65% of invited guests attended and packets will be sent to those who could not attend. The renderings of the new church were presented to generate excitement about the build-out. Current 5 yr. pledges will close out on Dec. 31st. The new campaign will start Jan. 16th/17th, with a \$2 million goal sought over the next 2 years to meet the \$5m needed on deposit. The “Payments without Pledges Report” and “Plate Report” (non-registered parishioner donations) show continued support of the campaign as well.

Rectory Improvements

Some necessary work was needed at the rectory. The cost of these items will come from the Building Fund, since the Rectory is a donated gift and part of the Capital Campaign: termite fumigation, (termite-damaged) pergola renovation by More’s Workers, replacement of the furnace that was emitting carbon monoxide, and a floor renovation.

Pastoral Council Charter

Doug suggested that we further review the current charter, make suggestions via e-mail and devote an adequate amount of time at the next meeting to make appropriate changes. Doug will begin drafting sections that we currently have in place, such as the mission statement and membership/officers guidelines.

6. New Business

7. Committee Updates

Evangelization and Faith Formation Committee

- **Evangelization**

Still vacant

- **Ecumenical & Inter-religious Affairs**

This subcommittee, headed by Regina Aulisio, is now part of the Faith Formation Committee rather than the Liturgy Committee.

- **RCIA**

One catechumen and seven candidates are preparing for the Easter Vigil, April 3rd

- **Religious Education for Adolescents and Children**

A Special Education class has been added for one student (with one catechist) preparing for First Communion. Overall enrollment continues to grow

- **Adult Religious Education Committee**

Men's Prayer Breakfast Sat., Jan. 9th

Retreats: youth Jan 4th, adults Jan. 5-7th

Parish Mission Feb. 24th – Mar. 4th

Fr. Mike's Bookies – 7 presentations

Re-Discovering Catholicism - 12 wk. course open to all

YouTube presentations by Fr. Mike & Bret have been canceled

Special presentations by author, Yaja Boren (survivor of WWII concentration camps); one for youth and one for adults; dates pending

- **Middle School Youth Ministry**

Meetings on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month

6th Annual Halloween Party a success

2nd Annual Talent Show coming up

Stand Up For Kids – Christmas backpack drive starting soon

- **High School Youth Ministry**

Three week mini course presented by Rory Griffin –“God in the Digital Age or R U There JC?”

Retreat with Mark Raymundo Jan. 22-24th

- **Liturgy of the Word for Children**

Still need facilitators

- **Sacramental Preparation**

27 young people (age 7-14) preparing for Sacrament of Reconciliation Nov. 29th

Finance Council

No report

Development Council

North County Food Bank canned goods drive starting Nov. 14-15th
Restaurant fundraiser at Dave's Famous BBQ Nov. 11th; Nucci's in Dec.

Social Ministries

The Belprez' have designed a booklet containing information summaries of all the social ministries. This could be incorporated into the website at a future date.

- *Fraternity House* - need to slowly reactivate
- *Project Linus* - more volunteers needed to make blankets
- *Sick and Homebound* – will draw participants from Eucharistic Ministry
- *New Orleans* – workers will not be returning this year
- *St. Bonaventure Mission* - donation collection Nov. 14-15th
- *Pro-Life* - changed their name to *Culture of Life* to expand the notion of pro life beyond anti-abortion

PO&E

No report

Liturgy Committee

No report

8. Upcoming Events for PR Release

Contact Anne Marshall if needed.

9. Emerging Issues

None identified

10. Clergy Comments

None

11. Closing Prayer

All members participated in The Lord's Prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12pm.

The date of the February Pastoral Council meeting is yet to be determined, dependent upon the 2010 parish calendar. We will try to keep it the first Wednesday of the month on a quarterly basis.

Doug D'Agrosa will lead the opening prayer.