

Church of St. Thomas More
Minutes of Pastoral Council Meeting
November 7, 2012

Doug D'Agrosa called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm

Opening Prayer

Jen Frost led the opening prayer.

Roll Call

Parish Council Member attendance:

		P	A
Name	Role		
Rev. Michael Ratajczak	Pastor	X	
Doug D'Agrosa	Pastoral Council Chair	X	
Marti Harper	Secretary		X
Rory Griffin	Faith Formation & Evangelization Chair		X
Paul Ibbetson	Finance Chair	X	
Cherie & Greg Abrahms	Social Ministries Chair	X	
Kathy Arciero	Liturgy Committee Liaison		X
Jen Frost	Marriage and Family Life Chair	X	
Patrick & Lisa Attardo	Parish Organizations & Events Chair	X	
Ron Briseno	Development Council Chair		X

Agenda Review

Old Business

Cherie & Greg Abrahms were welcomed to the council as the new Chairs for Social Ministries.

New Business

Jane Gladden, head of Publicity & Press Releases, spoke to the Council highlighting the guidelines for Event Press Releases. Jane stressed the importance of meeting the lead times for the various Christian Publications. She also included examples of the Press Release Form and the article submission form for "The Tower" Newsletter.

Committee Updates

Evangelization and Faith Formation Committee

No report at this time

Finance Council

Currently behind in operations budget which is normal in the first 6-9 months of the fiscal year; expect to catch up, as usual, with end-of-year fundraisers and other donations.

Development Council

No report at this time

Social Ministries

- **Blood Drive** – Good response
- **Christmas Angels** – Good response to first meetings; there will be some new ornaments on the tree and better clarification of what is needed and when due.
- **CPR** – One pending class
- **Culture of Life** – Just concluded a successful Life Walk
- **St. Bonaventure Mission** – Clothing drive scheduled for Nov. 10/11.

PO&E

- **Family Nights** – Four Family Nights have been added to the calendar; the first scheduled for November 30th
- **Knights of Columbus – Jim Baker** - Nov. 10-11 - St. Bonaventure clothing drive; Nov. 25th – dinner for North Co. Solutions for Change; Jan. 20th – next pancake breakfast
- **Senior Ministry – Judy Buoniconti** – October – Broadway Theater play; December – Winter Luncheon
- **Walking Ministry – Diane Pal** – Tues. & Thurs. mornings 8-9 am. Only two regular walkers out of an original 35; will plan pulpit announcement to generate interest
- **Women’s Guild and Deanery – Vera Bayliss** – Quilt sale raised \$3200; bake sale raised \$800. November – BINGO; December – study of St. Francis of Assisi and Christmas Raffle. STM will host the deanery in December.
- **Treasures Flea Market – John & Wendy Murphy** – \$12,100 raised for the operations budget

Liturgy Committee

- **Deanery Ministry Training** - Feb. 2nd @ STM
- **Building Update** – Perimeter fencing up In November; “live stream” of church construction on website; Bill Ipsen gives update at all Masses Nov. 3-4th; January 25th – “Town Hall Meeting” to give parishioners a preview of the interior elements of the church being created by the various artists
- **Music Ministry** – New Mass Settings are being introduced at all Masses
- **Hospitality Ministry** - Need more ministers for all Masses; Confirmation students are being trained to be Hospitality Ministers
- **Bereavement** – Sr. Maureen seeking referrals for additional team members

Marriage & Family Life

Jen Frost led a discussion on planning more “family events” in the parish. The council brainstormed on generating parent interest, leadership, cost, location, etc. It was decided that Kathleen Bell should be the next contact. The hope is to find “at-home” activities to which families can be introduced.

Emerging Issues

Clergy Comments

- Sunday collections are increasing (\$21,000 was the total for the first weekend of November- the best ever weekend collection!)
- Financial report is completed for fiscal year and posted on website
- Need at RBV HS – food pantry and clothing – contact is Diane Diaz. The Abrahams will be in contact with Diana Diaz to see how we may be able to proceed.
- Parishioner, Brian Leahy, has been hired by our parish to be the full-time construction site manager to oversee the building of the church and parish offices.

Closing Prayer

All members participated in the Lord’s Prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

The next Pastoral Council Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 30th.

Patrick and/or Lisa Attardo will lead the opening prayer.