

ST. JEROME PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
April 2, 2014

OPENING PRAYER:

The meeting opened with a prayer led by Jessica Ahr at 7:17 pm.

ROLL CALL:

Steve Cartwright called the meeting to order and called roll. Members present were: Larry Keller, Beth Pape, Catherine Richter, Cynthia Farmer, Lloyd Welty, Bill Thoms, Joe Jaksik and Father Rodolfo Caballero. Kellie Wiatrek was absent.

Others present: Darlene, LaVelle, Steve Zunker, Kathleen Rocha, Frances Zunker, Pelagius Moczygamba, Daryl Wagoner, Louis Rios, Joyce Royce, Alice Rutkowski, Jessica Ahr, Daniel Rocha, Sandi Rocha, Kathy Collins, Deacon Edward Jimenez, Richard Ruiz.

MINUTES:

Minutes of the March meeting were reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Lloyd Welty and seconded by Larry Keller. Motion passed and the minutes were approved as written.

VISITORS COMMENTS/OPEN FORUM:

Alice Rutkowski presented a 24 hour adoration schedule for Holy Thursday, placing all parishioners in a position to be able to attend, either by organization or by first letter of last name. We will be joining Jesus in His agony in the garden, His suffering, His scourging, His crucifixion. She asked that those in charge of organizations contact members of their groups to attend during their time. There will also be a sign-up sheet in the Gathering Space to sign up so Jesus is never alone during the twenty-four hour period.

FATHER RODOLFO CABALLERO'S COMMENTS:

It is important to place Jesus Christ at the center of our lives. Holy Thursday is the perfect time to do this. There will be a Mass at 7:00pm and the altar will be stripped following the Mass and Holy Hour will begin in the Adoration Chapel. There will be a holy hour from 9:00pm-10:00pm in the church. Copies of schedules will be made for distribution at Mass on Sunday and Holy Thursday. This will be a period of graces for our community. Pray for unity in our church and among us so that we stay united as a family. The commandment that Jesus left us on Holy Thursday is to love one another. Make it a point to foster love. Be patient and kind. Let go of anything that will place a wedge between us. Don't let the devil tear our community asunder. Let the Lord make each of us disciples living the gospel to everyone. There are two treasures in our Church - our Lord in the Eucharist and our unity as a parish family. Jesus has left us His message of His love.

DISCUSSION: Alice Rutkowski confirmed Father's message that we want others to look at us and say, "See how they love one another". Deacon Jimenez added that it says in scripture, "They will know we are Christians by our love".

ORGANIZATION & COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE COUNCIL: Pelagius Moczygamba reported that the loan balance on our church is under \$700,000. We pay \$10,000 a month on the interest. We have gone from \$6000 each weekend to \$9000 in collections.

ALTAR SOCIETY: Darlene LaVelle reported a membership of 99 women and reported that they have bought altar server cassocks and clothes, white, purple, green and red vestments for Father and deacon, and two new albs for Father. They will be hosting the Confirmation Reception, and the Parish Mission receptions on Sunday and Monday. They sponsor a Rosary to our Lady of Fatima on the 13th of each month and have coordinators for weddings and quinces. On Holy Thursday they will provide flowers for the Adoration Chapel and bread for distribution and will remove flowers and vestments from the altar. On Saturday they will decorate for Easter. There are two bake sales coming up. On Mothers Day weekend there will be a crowning of Mary by first communion students in the prayer garden at 5:00 and 8:30 Mass. There will be no meetings in June and July.

ACTS Daryl Wagoner reported that he is the new core facilitator, Frank Bennett is the new co-facilitator, and Karen Foster is the new secretary. Cathy Aniol will remain treasurer. Beginning in 2015 ACTS retreats will be held at the Oblate because St. Anthony de Padua has gone up in cost.

CCD: Sandi Dorsey reported that 62 confirmandi will be confirmed this Sunday with Father Edward Bernal, Father Anthony, Father Rodolfo and Archbishop Gustavo celebrating the Mass. Sandi is working on the program. It is an honor to host other parishes. Father Rodolfo is working hard to prepare. Altar servers will be wearing their new cassocks. The blessing of the Prayer Garden will be at 10:30. Palm Sunday will be the final CCD class. First Confession will be April 26 and First Communion will be April 27 at 8:30 Mass. Plans are being made for renovations to Pruski Hall.

CYO: Casino night was a big success earning \$15,300. \$12,000 will be added to the gym fund. CYO Mass was the following day. Children did readings, ushered, sang in the choir and did a great job. Baseball season starts this weekend with 3 softball, 2 t-ball, and 3 baseball teams. There will be 10-15 games each weekend. 75 children and their parents will be going to the Missions game on April 11. CYO bought the rosaries for First Communion. Gina and Steve Cartwright brought them back from Fatima. CYO will be working games at the May festival with Youth Ministry. There will be an adult softball co-ed tournament in June. The year end banquet will be in July for all children who played throughout the year. The gym fund is earmarked for the building of the gym and the money is safe in a specific account for that purpose. Parish boundaries are an issue for eligibility of teams.

YOUTH MINISTRY: Kathleen and Daniel Rocha reported that January to May is very busy. March 15 the South East Deanery retreat was held here. 93 teens from the deanery attended. St. Jerome's presented a three act play. Stations of the Cross was

held in the Prayer Garden and the Men's Club donated food for the kids. Babysitting was provided for Casino Night and will be provided during the parish Mission at Pruski Hall. April 19 they will volunteer for the State Support Living Center fiesta parade. They will help with parking and the booth. At the next meeting on April 13 they will stuff Easter bags for a Girl Scouts service project. Meetings continue throughout the summer with pool parties, and World Youth Day with the deanery. National Youth Ministers convention will be in San Antonio at a cost of \$300 each. The Rochas will do fundraisers to try to attend. We will start Life Teen in our parish in the future and Father has asked the Rochas to help.

HOME VISITATION: Alice Rutkowski reported on the history of the committee when we canvassed the area years back under Father Flanagan. Father Alberto suggested a "Companions for the Journey" group to minister to people in the parish who are home bound or widowed. The group visits and ministers to them, taking communion, praying with them. Two of the men have agreed to be sacristans. They meet the third Tuesday of the month 10:00-12:00. Future plans include bringing widows and widowers in the parish together to talk and share.

MEN'S CLUB: No report

RCIA: They are in a period of purification and enlightenment until sacraments on Easter Vigil. Saturday they held a retreat presented by the Women of the Tassel. Last week they held an Agape meal, next week they will attend the parish mission. The third scrutiny will be Saturday. They are doing a lot of reflection on their lives and how they have changed since they started the journey through RCIA.

SENIORS: The group is still meeting the second Thursday of each month in O'Brien Hall serving nearly 100 people who come from all over the area. Club members prepare the food and some of the participants bring a dish. They start to gather around 9:00, eat at noon, and play Bingo in the afternoon. Donations are accepted but not required.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY: Bill Thoms reported from Bonnie and Delia that they have provided food for 11 families, and paid 1 family's utility bills. Because of the plentiful Goya donation, the pantry is full. A women's bible study group made donations of paper goods.

BOY SCOUTS: Venturing Crew is no longer chartered with St. Jerome's. Jason reported to Bill that the fertilizer sale was a big success. They have held two good campouts since January. Fiesta Parade daytime tickets are still available. The troop bake sale will be May 10-11.

CUB SCOUTS; Richard Ruiz reported that the cub scouts are preparing for a night with the Rampage this weekend, campout with the Scorpions, a day with the Missions, and day camp in Floresville. They have sold 2200 cards to help pay for camp. Tiger roundup is coming up in May.

USHERS: Kathy Collins reported that ushers will have a training session tomorrow night at 7:00 to prepare for Holy Week and the Parish Mission and the ministry of hospitality. Father said it's about serving as Jesus would serve and loving those who come. It's important to help each other understand that this is not a job, it's a loving service.

LITTLE ROCK SCRIPTURE SERVICE: This session, with 64 people, will be ending soon and the facilitators will meet to plan the next study, hopefully the gospel of John.

MUSIC MINISTRY: The ministry has had one meeting of the combined choirs, they are working together for the Mission and Easter Vigil. Live Stations of the Cross will be in the parking lot on Wednesday of Holy Week. On Holy Thursday music will be provided by 8:30 choir, Holy Hour - 11:00 choir, Good Friday - 5:00 choir, Easter Vigil - 5:00 choir. Moving the black box will cost over \$1000 by San Antonio Sound and Light. Larry Keller will talk to them.

MARRIAGE MINISTRY: Gina Cartwright reported that the group has met three times and is searching for a program to start at St. Jerome to minister to married couples from engagement and beyond, hopefully to kick off in early fall.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES: Beth Pape reported that training is starting with Ushers, and will move to other ministries, based on the training provided by the Southeast Deanery through the Archdiocese.

PRAYER GARDEN: Blessing will be Sunday at 10:30. Lighting is being refined, benches and wooden crosses are coming soon, and flowers are blooming.

OLD BUSINESS: Plans are underway for the Parish Mission. Father Nutt will arrive at 1:50 Saturday. He will concelebrate at 5:00pm and 8:30 am Mass, but not 11:00 because of confirmation. Today's Catholic notice will come out Friday. Child care and transportation will be provided. There will be a light reception each evening Sunday through Tuesday, with a larger gathering on Wednesday.

NEW BUSINESS: Beth Pape presented proposed signage to be posted on the front of Flanagan Administrative Center. Three options were presented and 6 members voted for option number 1. Father Rodolfo suggested that the sign be movable and not permanently attached to the front of the gable of the church. Catherine Richter moved and Cynthia Farmer seconded and the motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30pm. Next meeting will be May, 7 2014 for Council Members only.

Submitted by

Beth Pape, Secretary

ACTION ITEMS FOR NEXT MONTH:

- * Resources for printing and distribution of information
- * Progress of background checks
- * Review of the pastoral priorities of the archdiocese and goals.
- * Processes, goals, accountability for parish activities and ministries
- * Future guests to give testimonials