

ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
Minutes of Meeting January 11, 2010

Present: Annmarie Gesualdo, Tom McCabe, Mary Claps, Rima Abraham, John Graf, Liz Harvey, Michael Koberda, Deacon Bob Puhala, Robert Ribordy. Absent: Msgr.Dempsey, Betsy Dorsey, Cindy Morales, Geoff Pautsch.

Annmarie called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM and gave the opening prayer.

Minutes of the November 9th meeting were approved as corrected on motion by Tom McCabe, seconded by Deacon Bob Puhala.

Commission Reports:

Spiritual Life (report distributed by Annmarie Gesualdo):

- >Plans underway for April 23-24 Retreat at the Conference Center, St. Mary of the Lake Seminary, Mundelein, with Rev. Ronald J. Lewinski, spiritual director. Sessions begin Friday at 7:30 PM through Saturday at 4 PM. \$98 per person includes room with private bath, meals, materials and director. Committee is preparing informative brochure.
- >Welcome to 11 new altar servers; new usher.
- >Compliments to Prep student lectors and to all involved in Lessons and Carols.

Education: (report distributed by Rima Abraham):

- >Adult inquiry classes are open to all who are interested. Sessions will continue Tuesday evenings through March.
- >Thirty people attended Vicki Thorn's talk on Nov. 15 , the last of the Fall series.
- >An impressive group of Prep students, 6th, 7th, 8th grades were involved in the December 5th "Firefighters Parade" project.
- >Compliments on the Christmas Pageant, well attended by Prep families.
- >No decision on CAB survey on change in Mass times.

Human Concerns: (report distributed by Mary Claps):

- >Ministers of Care Committee continues weekly home visits and visits to Maryhaven.
- >Sharing Parish St.Benedict the African East:-
 - Re: John Meade's request for authorization of a semi-annual collection of gift cards , *Council requests plan of action and information as to process, timing, specific needs of parish/community.* Mary C. will relay info to J.M.
- >Respect Life Committee (see D.Scheeler's 1/10/10 report) -
 - Women's Center: Two members helped sort new clothing for Christmas party; Advent "Spare Change Saves Lives" project resulted in 60 baby bottles collected & delivered. Attended Vic.II Respect Life meeting at Queen of All Saints.
 - Jan. 22, Com. will sponsor a Day of Adoration at SPA 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

Parish Life (report from John Graf):

- >Hospitality Committee , chaired by Jane Karol, is in operation. Many thanks to Jane Karol for Dec. 20 "Lessons and Carols" reception.

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(Parish Life Com. cont'd.)

- >Men's Club "Coffee and.." in Social Room well attended. Thanks to Gerry Schroeder for providing refreshments.
- >Plans underway for Jan. 30 annual "Cards for Charity" event – 6:30 PM in the gym.

Parish Outreach ad hoc Committee Report (Michael Koberda):

Committee met in November to plan for Catholics Come Home program:

- >Thirty volunteers signed on as Greeters before and after weekend Masses in the six-week period Dec. 19 -- Jan. 24. Welcome table was set up in narthex.
- >Feb. 8 reception for volunteers combined with Open House . Invitation to be mailed to all volunteers, Commissions, Outreach Committee, new parishioners. Hospitality Committee to be notified.

Pastor's Report:

[Deacon Bob Puhala reported in Msgr. Dempsey's absence, attending a meeting in Rome]:

- >Lenten Mission March 1, 2, 3 with Fr. Ed Linton giving a 30-minute talk followed by Vespers.
- >Census is tabled.
- >Directory completed, to be available late January.

Deacon's Report:

- >Parish blessed with eleven new altar servers –(trained by Msgr. Dempsey and Deacon Bob.)
- >Lenten Scripture Reflection series "Soup and Scripture" to begin Feb. 22 or 23.
- >Feb. 8 Open House Catholics Come Home.

Parish Fundraiser:

The need for a financial goal and the type of fundraiser was discussed. Motion by John Graf to create an ad hoc committee from Men's Club, Women's Guild, Hospitality and former chairs of fundraisers, was seconded by Deacon Bob Puhala and unanimously carried. John will steer this ad hoc committee.

Closing prayer given by Deacon Bob Puhala.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Next meeting, Monday, March 8, 2010.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Claps, Secretary

Approved:

**St. Philip the Apostle
Parish Pastoral Council Agenda
January 11, 2010
Church Social Room @ 7:30pm**

Opening Prayer: Annmarie Gesualdo

- Correction of September 8, 2009 minutes.
- Approval of November 9, 2009 minutes.

COMMISSION REPORTS:

- Spiritual Life Commission Annmarie Gesualdo
- Education Commission Rima Abraham
- Human Concern Commission Mary Claps
- Parish Life Commission John Graf
- Outreach Committee Michael Koberda
- **PASTOR REPORT**
- **DEACON REPORT**

Business

- Catholics Come Home
Feb. 8th-CCH Open House-(Jane Karol)
- St.Benedict the African- semi-annual appeal
- Parish Survey-Mass Schedule
- Parish Fundraiser

Closing Prayer: Deacon Bob Puhala
Adjournment

Next Meeting – Monday, March 8, 2010 7:30 p.m. in Social Room

**St. Philip the Apostle Parish Council
SPIRITUAL LIFE COMMISSION REPORT**

Submitted by
Annmarie Gesualdo
January 11, 2010

Spiritual Life Commission met on Monday, November 16, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Center.

ALTAR CARE COMMITTEE	Margaret Lenhart Janet Lyman	End of Ordinary Time. Purple for Advent beginning November 29, 2009.
ALTAR SERVERS	Donna Falzone Deacon Bob Msgr. Dempsey	Six new servers continue server training and practice November 17, 2009. More servers have joined the program since November 16. In all there are 11 new servers. Welcome to: Abigail Burke Madison Catarello Megan Gabor Vivienne O'Bryan Nick Link Julie D'Egidio Caroline Pecard* Claire Pecard* Christian Pecard* John Paul Postel Jim Postel *denotes triplets
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Cathy Stegich	Remind ministers hand sanitizer is available in the Sacristy for hand sanitation before distribution of Holy Communion.
FLOWER CARE COMMITTEE	Maureen Claps Mary Claps Barb Howard Cathy Stegich	Thank you Fran Reynolds for November 1 st flowers! Christmas flowers ordered. Gaudete Sunday is the only Sunday in Advent okay for flowers.
LECTORS	Dan Seeberg	Prep Students read the 3 rd Sunday of the month. Assigned lectors will read for Lessons and Carols. Thanks to MJ Murnane, G.Dickinson, M.Clingan, G.Kendall, B.Snediker, D. Seeberg.
MUSIC MINISTRY	Brent Weiland	October 18 th "Coffee with the Choir" was a success. Special thanks to Pat Karr, Mary & Maureen Claps. Everyone was asked to promote "Lessons & Carols" December 20 th . Thanksgiving Day choir invite all available members to sing.
USHERS/GREETERS	Stan Smith	Welcome to Patrick O'Donoghue our new usher. Best wishes to Tony Scafidi who moved out of SPA parish.

Coming:

April 23rd & April 24th All Parish Retreat at The Conference Center at St. Mary of the Lake Seminary in Mundelein, IL Fr. Ron Lewinski, Spiritual Director.

Next SLC Meeting February 1, 2010 in Parish Center at 7 p.m.

St Philip the Apostle Parish Pastoral Council

Education Commission Report

Meeting of January 11, 2010

Submitted by Rima Abraham

Adult Catechesis

Invitations to the **Adult Inquiry Classes** appeared in the bulletin through November. Classes will continue through March.

The third and last of the **Fall Talk Series** took place on November 15. Vicki Thorn gave a very interesting presentation: "What They Didn't Tell You in Sex Ed..." which was well received.

Bible Study

Two Bible Study groups are currently covering the Book of Exodus.

Religious Education (PREP)

The annual **St. Philip Giving Tree**, a faith in action project of the PREP seventh grade was set up week of November 15. The tree is decorated with ornaments tagged with gift suggestions. The project benefits Catholic Charities "Celebration of Giving" Toy shower and our sharing parish, St. Benedict the African East.

Catholic Charities annual "Chicago Fire Fighters Parade" was on December 5. Tim Halfmann is our Parish Coordinator for this unique event. Students from grades 6, 7, and 8 as well as high school students are invited to participate.

The annual production of the **Christmas Pageant** was December 13, this year's event was even better than last year. All parish families are invited. The pageant, which is held in the gym, was very well attended.

The Catechetical Advisory Board (CAB)

CAB met January 3rd, among issues discussed were:

- The parish survey re: change in Sunday Mass and PREP times.
- Ways to improve relations with our sister parish St. Benedict the African East.

Attached are the parish survey, plus DRE Cindy Morales report on both, and the newly formed Moms and Tots group.

**St. Philip the Apostle Parish Pastoral Council
HUMAN CONCERNS COMMISSION REPORT
January 11, 2010
Submitted by Mary Claps**

Ministers of Care Committee:

>Remanded by the Archdiocese for three years from 11/29/09-12/2/12 as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to the Sick: Dorothy Broccolo, Anne Buxton, Mary Claps, Maureen Claps, Betsy Dorsey, Anna Koberda, Bruce Old, Frances Reynolds, Barbara Ringley and Marilyn Wortman.

>Weekly visits to Maryhaven continue.

>Home visits in Nov-Dec: Pat Nolan (Mary Claps), Rita Dillon (Barb Ringley), Theresa Curcio (Fran Reynolds).

Sharing Parish –St. Benedict the African East:

John Meade's report of 1/1/10:

>delivered 35 gift cards totaling \$1,495; attended Mass and visited with Srs. Mary and Joann at the parish...gift cards very much appreciated and needed. Remaining gift cards will be picked up and delivered later in January when all collections are complete.

>Initial collection down about \$400 from last year . Total collected last year: \$3,670.

"As the needs are great at SBAE Parish, I request that the Parish Council give consideration to authorizing a collection of gift cards for the poor served by St. Benedict the African Parish on a semi-annual basis. This would be in addition to St. Philip collecting clothing and household goods for their summer rummage sale."

Respect Life Committee:

See Diana Scheeler's 1/10/10 report.

>Two members visited the Women's Center to sort new clothing for the Christmas party.

>Advent project: "Spare Change Saves Lives" resulted in 60 baby bottles collected at SPA and delivered to Women's Center.

>Two members attended Vic.II Respect Life meeting at Queen of All Saints.

>2010 Chicago March for Life Sun. Jan. 17 after Noon Mass at Cathedral.

>SPA Respect Life will sponsor a Day of Adoration Fri.Jan. 22 (8:30 AM-4:00 PM).

>Continuing study of encyclical Caritas in Veritate.

**Respect Life
Report to Parish Council
January 10, 2010**

Mission Statement – The RL group of SPA, in union with the Church, will foster within our parish and the larger community an informed awareness of pro-life issues and a genuine commitment to the dignity and rights of all human life – from conception through natural death. (Prayer/spiritual works, Legislative outreach, Education, Pastoral Care, Collaboration.)

Two of our members went to The Women's Center to sort new clothing for the Christmas party with about 1000 guests. Women who chose to give birth during the past year were invited along with their children. Clothing gifts are given to the babies and to siblings up to age 12.

Thanks to the generosity of the people of St. Philip the Apostle Church over 60 baby bottles were collected and delivered to The Women's Center in the "Spare Change Saves Lives" project that started the first Sunday of Advent.

Two of our members attended the Vicariate II Respect Life meeting at Queen of All Saints. After ideas were shared from among the various parishes represented, Joe Scheidler from the Pro-Life Action League said the most important activity is counseling and praying outside the abortion facility where the women are being hurt and their babies are dying. The newly passed "Bubble Zone" surrounding the abortion facilities has not affected the ability to counsel and pray at those locations.

The 2010 Chicago March for Life will take place on Sunday, January 17, after the noon Mass at the Cathedral. Participants will walk to Water Tower where there will be speakers.

The St. Philip Respect Life group will sponsor a Day of Adoration on Friday, January 22, beginning after the 8:30 Mass and ending with the regularly scheduled Holy Hour from 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. A sign up sheet will be in the vestibule, asking people to commit to an hour or half-hour before the Blessed Sacrament at a time when 50,000,000 lives have been lost to abortion in the U.S. alone since 1973, and when the life of the elderly, the disabled and the infirm are at risk of being euthanized, and when war is an ever present reality.

In an attempt to better understand the teaching of the Church, the group is continuing its study and discussion of Pope Benedict's most recent encyclical, *Caritas in Veritate*.

The following phone numbers are included for anyone who wants to call state or federal officials on important issues.

- President Obama 202-456-1111 or 202-456-1414
- Senator Richard Durbin 202-224-2152, 312-353-4952
- Senator Roland Burris 202-224-2854
- Congressman Mark Kirk 202-225-4835, 847-940-0302
- Gov. Quinn 312-814-5200
- IL Sen. Jeffrey Schoenberg 217-782-2119, 847-492-1200
- IL Rep. Elizabeth Coulson 217-782-4194, 847-724-3233
- *IL Rep Sandy Cole 847-543-0062, Rep Mary Flowers 773-471-5200*

Outreach Committee Report

January 2010

Outreach Committee met once on November 17, 2009. In attendance were: Mary Claps, Betsy Dorsey, Annmarie Gesualdo, Pat Cuccio, Frank Cuccio, Liz Harvey, Deacon Bob Puhala, Michael Koberda

The focus of the meeting was on preparations for the Catholics Come Home activities. Deacon Bob provided an overview of the entire program and Michael explained the tasks assigned to the Committee by the Pastoral Council. The following shows a list of items prepared by the Committee members:

1. Sign-up sheets for volunteers - Michael
2. Welcome table cover - Liz
3. Welcome book - Mary
4. Cards with logos of St. Philip's and Catholics Come Home, and parish events calendar - Annmarie
5. List of Ministries with vision statements – Michael/Annmarie/Geoff

Committee members took turns signing up volunteers to serve as greeters before masses and at the Welcome Table. They were:

November 21, 5:30 - Michael

November 22, 7:30 - Betsy

November 22, 9:30 - Liz

November 22, 11:45 - Frank and Pat

November 28, 5:30 - Michael

November 29, 7:30 - Betsy

November 29, 9:30 - Liz

November 29, 11:45 - Annmarie

December 6, during Pancake Breakfast – Liz, Michael, Tom McCabe, Marge Livingston.

Thirty volunteers were signed up to greet at 24 weekend masses during the six-week period.

Proposed agenda items/discussion points for the January 11 PPC meeting:

- **Need details in regards to the Open House preparations**
- **Propose a 'thank you' reception for CCH volunteers – this could be an excellent opportunity to get new volunteers for various Committees**
- **Need to clarify the nomenclature: is the Outreach Committee a Commission, an *ad hoc* committee, or something else entirely. There was confusion while describing 'it' in a CCH handout.**