

**St. Philip the Apostle Parish Pastoral Council**  
Minutes of Meeting May 11, 2010

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

Annmarie called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Betsy Dorsey gave the opening prayer.

Minutes of the March 8, 2010 meeting were approved on motion by Tom McCabe, seconded by John Graf.

**Commission Reports:**

Spiritual Life (report distributed by Annmarie Gesualdo):

- +Thanks to all who helped with preparations and celebrations during Holy Week, Triduum and Easter season.
- + Seventeen attended Parish Retreat April 23-24 at Mundelein's Conference Center, directed by Rev. Ronald J. Lewinski. Feedback was positive regarding selection of time, place, direction, materials, sense of unity among group.  
Annmarie commented: "Fr. Lewinski's sharing of stories, scriptural readings, and his powerful convictions on the Eucharist helped to deepen our understanding of what we bring to the Eucharistic Table every time we participate. Our small group Mass on Saturday held special meaning. The atmosphere, history of the University of St. Mary of the Lake, good food and most of all camaraderie, made the retreat!"
- +SL Com next meeting June 7, 2010 in Parish Meeting Room.

Education (report distributed by Rima Abraham):

- +Parish summer film series, "Spring In with the Saints" every Thursday evening May 6 through June 10 in the Parish Meeting Room.
- +April 15, Bible Study group visited Catholic Charities' soup kitchen in Des Plaines, cooked dinner for ninety people, and served those attending that day.
- +PREP groups: April 11, twenty-seven candidates receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation conferred by Bishop Kane; May 2, eighteen boys and girls received First Holy Communion; May 9, May Crowning followed the 9:30 Mass, with our First Communicants leading prayer. Vacation Bible School June 14-18 for children ages 4-11, up to 6th grade. Theme: " Baobab Blast."
- +CAB: Plans underway for a book club and reading corner, recruiting volunteers.

Human Concerns (report distributed by Mary Claps):

**Ministers of Care:**

- +April 20, eight Ministers of Care attended Maryhaven's thank-you luncheon for volunteers.
- +Barb Ringley will be leaving St. Philip's May 27 to relocate in Pennsylvania. She will be missed at Maryhaven and at St. Philip's.

**Sharing Parish:**

+March 21, six Parish Council members from SBAE attended 9:30 Mass at SPA.

**Respect Life:**

- + In March, three committee members attended *Catholics at the Capitol* in Springfield, speaking to legislators on pro-life issues.
- +April 25, sponsored a talk by Ann Schiedler at SPA on how the new health care legislation affects the abortion battle. Session was well attended.
- +Mother's Day Flower Sale May 8 & 9 after Masses: proceeds will benefit Women's Center.
- +May 20, Baby Shower (Respect Life in cooperation with Women's Guild) will be held in the Convent.

**Parish Life Commission:**

John Graf reported the Men's Club working on the June 21 Golf Outing, contacting sponsors. No report as yet on May 8 Women's Guild luncheon.

**Parish Fundraiser:** John reported he has heard from fourteen people interested in putting their minds to the project. John will meet with Msgr. Dempsey and Geoff in the next week.

Fundraiser goals: to be fun, well-attended and make money.

Michael Koberda's Outreach Committee will join Fundraising Committee.

**Pastor's Report:**

- +Msgr. Dempsey commented on Sacraments of Confirmation and First Communion celebrations "both very lovely". Confirmation group (27) larger than last year, included two high-schoolers, twenty-four 8th graders, and one adult. First Communion group was larger than the past two years.
- +Calendar note: Confirmation next year, due to Bishops' schedules and late Easter, will be on Friday evening, April 15, 2011, 7:30 PM.
- +SPA Retreat – attendees had a good experience.
- +Triduum attendance was down this year.
- +Attendance at last two Masses Easter Sunday was higher than last year.
- +Easter collection down \$2,000.
- +Bell tower and carillon were installed, but work continues. Painting to be done. Brief blessing will be given after the 5:30 Mass, Sat. May 15. Plan is to ring bells before Masses and at 6 and 12 Noon for the Angelus.
- +I'm delighted to hear John Graf's report on fundraiser response. This is the one time the whole parish comes together.
- +Archdiocesan response to the "Catholics Come Home" project was good, but not quite as large as that of some other dioceses.
- +Our altar servers were treated to a CUBS game on Monday night, May 10.
- +At the Friday Holy Hour crowd's urging, we will conclude "The Year for Priests" on Friday, June 11 with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after the 8 AM Mass until 4 PM. Bishop Rassas will give a talk and hear confessions.

+A note from Bob Snediker following up on the annual River Day project stated our site was not included this year in the clean-up May 8th since we did such a great job last year clearing the area of overgrowth. Bob will return with Friends of the Chicago River reps this Spring to check the buckthorn.

Deacon's Report:

Deacon Bob Puhala: Thanks so much, Msgr. Dempsey, for allowing the altar servers to go to the CUBS game. We had a bus...20 to 24 went along. Lots of fun working with the altar servers. Numbers continue to grow as new families move into the parish.

PREP Reading Corner up-date: Rima reporting meeting with Margery Fejes, gathering book lists from Ignatius Press, who offer discounts, and others. They have four lists besides websites. Our Sunday Visitor list was suggested. Projected plan for May: send a letter to parents with volunteer sheet; send letter to nonparents. In June: meet with that group; present a book list to Msgr.; order books. In July: set up and catalog books. Meet in the Convent a couple of morning hours a week. Q: Will this be a circulating library? A: Yes.

Education Commission replacement: Rima reported she is working on this with Cynthia Morales.

Council meeting dates proposed for coming year - second Tuesday every second month:  
**September 14, November 9, 2010; January 11, March 8, May 10, July 12, 2011.**

Next meeting, **Monday, July 12, 2010**, changed from Tuesday, July 13th.

Deacon Bob Puhala gave the closing prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM on motion by Tom McCabe, seconded by John Graf.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Claps, Secretary

Approved:

Date: July 12, 2010

**St. Philip the Apostle  
Parish Pastoral Council Agenda**

**May 11, 2010**

**Church Social Room @ 7:30pm**

Opening Prayer

Approval of March 8, 2010 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**

**Agenda**

**St. Benedict the African- Rummage Project- Need Coordinator**

**Prep Reading Center in Convent- progress report**

Closing Prayer: Deacon Bob Puhala

Adjournment

**Next Meeting –Tuesday, July 13, 2010 7:30 p.m. in Parish Center**

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

Submitted by  
 Annmarie Gesualdo  
 May 11, 2010

Spiritual Life Commission met on Sunday, March 14, 2010 at 10:30 a.m. in the Parish Center.

ALTAR CARE	Margaret Lenhart Janet Lyman	Preparations for Holy Week and Triduum are in order.
ALTAR SERVERS	Donna Falzone Deacon Bob Msgr. Dempsey	Triduum and Easter times were filled with dedicated Altar Servers. Thank you.
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	Cathy Stegich	Thank you Cathy for creating the sign up poster requesting ministers to serve during Triduum and Easter. Thanks to all ministers of Holy Communion!
ALTAR FLOWERS	Maureen Claps Mary Claps Barb Howard Cathy Stegich	Beautiful flower arrangements for Triduum and Easter adorned the altar. Special thanks to all your dedicated effort.
LECTORS	Dan Seeberg	Special thanks to all lectors reading during Holy Week, Triduum and Easter.
MUSIC MINISTRY	Brent Weiland	Thank you to all musicians, choirs and Children's choir who participated during the Holy Week, Triduum and Easter celebrations.
USHERS/GREETERS	Stan Smith	Thank you Ushers for your service during the Holy Week, Triduum and Easter season.

**April 23<sup>rd</sup> & April 24<sup>th</sup> St Philip the Apostle All Parish Retreat** at The Conference Center, St Mary of the Lake Seminary in Mundelein, IL

**SPIRITUAL LIFE COMMISSION –Next SLC meeting is June 7, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Center.**

## **St Philip the Apostle Parish Pastoral Council**

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### **Education Commission Report**

Meeting of March 8, 2010

Submitted by Rima Abraham

#### Adult Catechesis

- Msgr. Dempsey gave a lecture "End of Life Issues", March 25 in which he explained and answered questions re the Catholic teachings on the subject. The event was sponsored by the Respect Life Committee at OLPH Parish in Glenview. A group of parishioners from St. Philip attended. Monsignor is a member of the Archdiocesan Bioethics Committee.
- Ann Scheidler gave a health care lecture April 25th, at the invitation of St. Philip's Respect life Group. Her topic: "**How does the new health care legislation impact the abortion battle**". (see HC report). Ms Scheidler is the co-founder of the Pro-Life Action League and coordinator of 'Speak out Illinois'.
- The Respect Life Group read and discussed Pope Benedict's Encyclical "**Caritas in Veritate**" and submitted key quotes from the six chapters which appeared in the bulletin March 7 through May 2.
- **Spring in with the Saints**, the parish summer film series on the life of the saints, will be held Thursdays May 6 through June 10 in the social room.

#### Bible Study

The Bible Study Group visited the Catholic Charities soup kitchen in Des Plaines April 15. Mrs Morales and the group cooked dinner for 90 people, and served those attending that day.

#### Religious Education (PREP)

The end of the PREP year class, April 25, was preceded by the first of the end-of-year celebrations:

April 11- Our parish welcomed Bishop Kane who conferred the **Sacrament of Confirmation** on 27 candidates.

May 2- We celebrated **First Holy Eucharist**. 18 boys and girls received the Sacrament one very beautiful spring day!

May 9 - **May Crowning** will follow the 9:30 mass. Leading in prayer will be our First Communicants.

A catechists meeting was held in March. All catechists agreed this year went well. The final catechist meeting for the year, TBA.

**Education Commission Report**  
Meeting of May 11,2010

Vacation Bible School will be held from June 14 to 18. Registration is open to parishioners and non-parishioners. Children ages 4-11; up to 6th grade are welcome.

The Catechetical Advisory Board (CAB)

At the CAB meeting in March, DRE Cindy Morales presented the idea of starting a 'book club' to be held in the convent. A volunteer to run the club is needed. M J Murnane and Molly Gantner will be helping with the book club.

Work on the 'PREP Reading Corner' is continuing. During March and April. Margery and Rima were gathering information related to setup, book lists, scheduling and recruiting volunteers. Margery obtained reports on two groups who started their own parish libraries.

Carol Brown contributed one of the reports with links to various publishers websites. So far we have a couple volunteers. A letter will be mailed to PREP parents this May. We will try to get their input on books and other media they would like to see on the shelves, and hopefully recruit a couple more volunteers.

The next CAB meeting TBA.

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

**Ministers of Care Committee:**

- \*Tue. April 20, volunteers were invited to Maryhaven for a "thank-you" lunch and entertainment. Attendees from SPA were: Dorothy Broccolo, Mary and Maureen Claps, Betsy Dorsey, Mary Jo McCabe, Bruce Old, Dede Reedy, Barb Ringley,
- \*Weekly visits to Maryhaven continue.
- \*Home visits: Fran Reynolds to Theresa Curcio; Barb Ringley to Rita Dillon; Mary Claps to Dean Brockman.

**Sharing Parish – St. Benedict the African East:**

On Sunday, March 21, six members of the SBAE Parish Council attended 9:30 AM Mass at St. Philip's. They were welcomed by Annmarie Gesualdo. Msgr. Dempsey graciously acknowledged their presence from the altar. After Mass everyone was invited to share hospitality in the Social Room.

**Respect Life Committee Quarterly Report from Diana Scheeler:**

Three members of the Respect Life group attended *Catholics at the Capitol* in Springfield in March, speaking to legislators on pro-life issues from womb to tomb. Five members attended the Respect Life Conference at St. Lambert in Skokie at which both Bob Gilligan (the Archdiocesan representative in Springfield) and Cardinal George spoke. In recent months the Respect Life coordinators have been meeting at the Vicariate level as a means of coordinating efforts.

The Respect Life group finished the reading and discussion of Pope Benedict's recent encyclical, *Caritas in Veritate*, and have been submitting key passages to the bulletin.

The group also sponsored a talk by Ann Schiedler on how the new health care legislation affects the abortion battle. She said the mission of changing hearts and minds remains the same. She spoke about the importance of witnessing, praying, and counseling outside the abortion facility because it offers recognition and dignity to the unborn and compassion and choice to the woman who feels coerced into an abortion, not aware of the caring support that is available. The session was well attended by people from St. Philip with visitors from several other parishes.

On May 8th and 9th the Mother's Day Flower Sale will be held after each of the Masses with proceeds benefiting the Women's Center. We hope parishioners will continue to honor their loved ones while supporting a *vitaly* important cause.

Denise Waltz representing the Women's Guild has asked for the support of Respect life in sponsoring a baby shower for mothers who with the help of the Women's Center have chosen life for their child. It will be held on May 20th in the Social Room and a suggestion was made to extend a special invitation to new members of the parish for this get together. For those not able to attend the social gathering but who wish to contribute a gift, a bassinet will again be placed in the vestibule during the early part of May.

The group is trying to meet all 5 of its goals: prayer/spiritual works, legislative outreach, education, pastoral care, and collaboration with other groups.

4/28/10