

ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
Minutes of Meeting September 8, 2009

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

The meeting was called to order by Annmarie Gesualdo at 7:30 PM.

Cynthia Morales gave the opening prayer.

Minutes of the July 14th meeting were approved.

Msgr. Dempsey distributed copies of the July 2009 revised Bylaws.

Spiritual Life Commission report was distributed by Annmarie Gesualdo.

*All committees are seeking new members, planning for Sep.12-13 Parish Ministry Weekend.

*Parish Retreat scheduled for April 23-24 at Mundelein Conference Center, led by Rev. Ronald Lewinski.

Human Concerns Commission report was distributed by Mary Claps.

*A list of Ministers of Care to be remanded by the Archdiocese has been submitted.

Parish Life Commission report was distributed by John Graf.

*Women's Guild co-chairs for 2009-10: Anne Blair, Gina Dickinson, Jeanne Doherty and Mary Snediker.

*Women's Guild Membership Mass and dinner Sep. 22.

*Oktoberfest Sep. 26: Kids' Fest will be the same as last year. Volunteer sign-up sheets to be available for Ministry Weekend. Dinner price was lowered by \$10 this year due to economy. Tom McCabe is in charge of raffle prizes. Poster on display at Northfield Community Events calendar, corner of Willow and Happ Rds.

Education Commission report was distributed by Rima Abraham.

*Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults this Fall will be led by Msgr. Dempsey.

*Fall Lecture series will be held in new meeting room Sep. 27, Oct. 25, Nov. 15.
Speakers are: Msgr. Dempsey, Linda Couri, Vicki Thorn.

PASTOR'S REPORT:

*Oct. 16-17 Archdiocesan "Festival of Faith" will feature a Saturday evening celebration for married couples: "Celebrating Marriage – an evening to remember" with a presentation by Jim and Suzanne Nicholson, and Mary Pat Donovan's sisterly advice for making marriage successful. Music and dancing complete the evening.

Minutes of Meeting 9/8/09 -2-
(Pastor's Report cont'd.)

- *Msgr. Dempsey announced his reappointment by Cardinal George as Pastor of St. Philip the Apostle Parish for a six-year term from July 9, 2009.
- *Progress on new meeting room: chairs have been delivered; tables are on order. Two events will be held this week: (1) Blessing of the new room after the 5:30 Mass and (2) Blessing of Pastoral Council members after the Gospel, 9:30 Mass.
- *Bell tower should be installed before Thanksgiving.
- *Parish Sign will be approved by Northfield architectural commission.
- *New meeting room will be used for the Tuesday evening Lecture series, inquiry classes, Wednesday evening choir rehearsals, and monthly coffees.
- *Oktoberfest donations are very slow in coming. Finance Com. asks us to consider some other kind of fundraiser in future...to be discussed after this year's fest.
- *Our challenges: how to keep up with expenses; how to keep young families interested; how to find more parishioners. Deacon Bob will be coordinating "Catholics Come Home" program.
- *Future Mass schedule changes will be considered in light of PREP class schedule. CAB will be surveying parents with focus on "when do you want religious education."
- *Rev. John Kilgallen, S.J. will be back to help on weekends.

DEACON'S REPORT:

- *Pet Blessing Oct. 4 at 11:45 - St. Francis of Assisi's feast day... will meet with Msgr. Dempsey and servers. Letter to parents to encourage attendance.
- *As "Catholics Come Home" contact for St. Philip's, will be asking for help in this effort - Dec. 16 through January. Information for Commissions to be forthcoming.
- *Bylaws update completed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Election of Deanery Council representative. Tom McCabe agreed to serve as representative of St. Philip's parish in Deanery A, Vicariate II. Meetings are held at St. Peter's in Skokie, where the Dean is Rev. Michael Wulsch, Pastor. The Council thanked Tom. Msgr. Dempsey will notify Fr. Wulsch of Tom's acceptance.

Parish Outreach Commission was initiated when Michael Koberda and John Graf presented suggestions for ways to approach parishioners, resulting in more involvement in church activities, i.e., enhancing web site, contacting inactive parishioners, hosting new parishioners' events, availability of Council members, asking CCD parents for input, publicizing parish. Committee, led by Michael Koberda, includes Betsy Dorsey, Liz Harvey and Tom McCabe. Deacon Bob will coordinate publicity. Marketing help would be welcome.

Youth Minister, Linda Couri has accepted the position of Assistant Director of Lay Ministry formation at St. Mary of the Lake, Mundelein. Linda will try to continue part time with those she has been working with at St. Philip's.

Minutes of Meeting 9/8/09 -3-

Future Meetings:

Council agreed to change meeting dates:

Second Monday Nov. 9, Jan. 11, Mar. 8;

Second Tuesday May 11, July 13.

Next meeting will be Monday, November 9, 2009.

Closing prayer was given by Msgr. Dempsey.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Claps, Secretary

Approved:
