

2010 Jesus, the Good Shepherd Pastoral Council Members

Sebastiao Bispo

- 1) *What do you see as the single most urgent need for the parish of Jesus, the Good Shepherd? What do you believe the Pastoral Council's role should be in addressing this problem?* In my opinion as a member of the community the Pastoral Council should target the union of the communities (American, Brazilian, Portuguese and Spanish.)
- 2) *Please reflect briefly on the term "servant leadership." What does it mean to you?* That means to serve Jesus as a first priority.
- 3) *How do you view prayer in your life? When is it most appropriate?* I see prayer like a way that we talk with Jesus and should be done all the time when our spirit feels that needs. But doesn't mean that we have to pray only we need some kind of help. Pray should be present all the time in our lives.
- 4) *Without concern about money, time constraints, inter-personal conflicts, etc., what would be your "ideal" vision for our parish community?* The "ideal" should be working together, since we are a multi-cultural community.

In what parish ministries and committees do you currently participate? Please list the approximate length of your service in each. Currently I participate as member of the community helping at the Masses.

My name is **Marie Busch**. I have been married to my husband Bob for forty-six years. I have lived in Edgewater Park for forty-one years. For forty years, I have been a member of St. Joseph' Church of Jesus, the Good Shepherd Parish. I have been retired one and half years ago after having worked as a branch manager for over twenty years. I have two children and 6 grandchildren. My new job is baby sitting my granddaughter, Melanie, age five, and my grandson, Joseph Thomas, age twenty months, two to three times a week.

Prayer is an important part of my life. It doesn't always have to be formal prayer. Just speaking to God through out the day keeps me centered on living a truly Christian life, striving to see Jesus in everyone I met.

In the same manner, I feel that as a member of the Pastoral Council it should not be about me or my needs and desires. It should be about serving others in prayer and works that bring individuals and families together, within the Parish. Listening to them and guiding them to the individuals and or groups within the Parish, that can help them grow in faith and service.

I feel one of the most important needs for Jesus, the Good Shepherd Parish is to truly join the churches of St. Joseph and St Peter's into one Parish, bringing back parishioners who left and bringing in new parishioners, especially young people.

In the future, I would like to see our Parish as a truly vibrant, important institution in our community. It would be overflowing with parishioners worshipping and learning about our faith and involved in all parts of community and parish activities. There would be evangelization, programs for the poor, the sick, the young, the old etc. We would be known in the community as truly following Christ's teachings and known for the love we show one another.

My name is **Tyler Hagan**. I was born in 1985 and have lived in Willingboro for twenty four years. I recently graduated from Rowan University with a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education. I starting going to St. Joseph's parish in 1997, and I am now a member of Jesus, The Good Shepherd parish. I am a former altar server, and have been a lector for about ten years. The most urgent need for the parish of Jesus, the Good Shepherd is for all parishioners to be united as one parish. Also, it is essential that the youth of our parish become more involved. The Pastoral Council's role in addressing these needs is extremely important to our parish now as well as in the future. Our role is to do what is best for the parish as a whole so that our parish community may be vibrant. Servant leadership is an important aspect of any parish. A parish needs to have a leader that has a vision for the future as well as do what is best for the parish in the present time. Prayer is something that I do not only at church, but at other times during the week. I do not have a daily routine for prayer, but tend to pray daily. I often pray while driving and also reflect on things in my life on a regular basis. I believe our parish has the potential to be an extremely vibrant parish. In the ideal situation our parish community would have an extended foundation of parishioners as well as a multitude of parish groups to keep everyone involved. We would also be an important part of the community. There is one question that I think we should all reflect upon: Would we do anything differently if Jesus was a member of Jesus, the Good Shepherd parish?



*Sebastian
Bispo*



*Marie
Busch*



Tyler Hagan

2010 Jesus, the Good Shepherd Pastoral Council Members

My name is **John Mongon**. I have been a member of St. Peter's Church for 44 years, and now a member of Jesus, The Good Shepherd. I am married to my wife Debbie; we have three children and two grand children. My family is now in into the sixth generation of residents of Riverside and fifth generation as parishioners of our parish.

I have been a member of the usher's society, since 1995. I have served as an Extraordinary Minister for the last two and a half years, and am a member of the facilities committee for the past three years.

I feel the largest challenge and immediate need of Jesus, The Good Shepherd is to return and recruit a base of young families to become parishioners of our parish. I believe the Pastoral council can take on a key role in this by reaching out to our communities and current parishioners with both open ears and open mind.

I think the best way for the Pastoral council to reach out to our parishioners and change our parish into a vibrant worship place is by servant leadership. In this process we lead by example, being the servant of our Lord God. We as a council need to be visible to the people of our parish, to be sure the needs of parishioners are meant, and it is then that we will be transitioned into leaders of our parish community.

I pray on my way to work, thanking God for the safe return and health of my family from the day prior and ask him for his guidance that we complete his will for that day. I think we all pray at different times and in different places, the only important thing is that daily at a minimum we reach out to God and pray for his guidance.

I have a vision of our parish community to be the marquee of the new parishes in the diocese of Trenton. We have come together from the churches of St. Joseph and St. Peter with unity, faith and hope. I feel if we all continue this journey together, we will be the parish of the future. A place of worship and community that stand for everything that St. Joseph and St. Peter have lead us to this point.



John Mongon

My name is **John Brian Rendfrey**. I have belonged to St. Peter's Church for my entire life. All of the significant moments in both my life and my family's lives have been celebrated and commemorated in this faith community. The parish community of *Jesus, The Good Shepherd*, as it is known now, will always remain a special community to me. I have come to realize that this would not be possible if it were not for the shared relationship of the *presence of the church* and the *servant leadership* of the faith community. The presence of the church can be found in the very building itself, in the many places I have experienced the sacraments and community gatherings. These experiences have helped me recognize the relationship I share with my parish community, and also, the relationship my parish community shares with the universal church. This understanding of the church, would not be possible, though, if it were not for the role of servant leadership in the faith community. Without it, no real community can exist. In looking back on my years as a parishioner, I am very grateful for the countless servant leaders who have responded to the needs of my parish. Their gentle examples have helped me recognize the crucial importance of the service of self-giving in the parish setting. Without this personal touch, I do not think a faith community could be recognized as such. I truly believe that this *presence of the church* and the *servant leadership* in the faith community help to create a necessary foundation – one that has introduced and allowed me to value the most gentle and humble of all human actions, that of prayer.



John Brian Rendfrey

2010 Jesus, the Good Shepherd Pastoral Council Members

I am **Kathleen Voelmle** and I live in Edgewater Park with my husband Joe. We have five children and eight grandchildren. We have been parishioners of St. Joseph's, now the parish of Jesus, The Good Shepherd, for forty-five years.

One of the challenges facing Jesus, The Good Shepherd Parish is the merging of St. Peter's and St. Joseph's. As part of the Pastoral Council I will listen to my fellow parishioners' concerns and bring them before the council, so we can create an atmosphere where we can all grow in holiness. Our highest calling is to follow Christ. Where Christ is the center, parish life can grow. I will try my best to devote myself to my fellow parishioners as an advocate. My prayer life is very important to me. I pray to praise God, to pray for the people on my prayer list who are in need and to ask God to forgive me for my transgressions. I belong to a prayer group. Our group of thirteen people meets every other week in one of the member's home. Also, I belong to the Women of Joy Prayer Breakfast. This is a group of women who meet at Corpus Christi in Willingboro on the second Saturday of every month to share breakfast and pray. I also try and make a retreat every year. This year my two daughters and I made a retreat at San Alfonso Retreat House in Long Branch, New Jersey.

My ideal vision for our parish community is a church where all the parishioners strive to help keep it alive and growing. One way of doing this is to volunteer to serve on one of the various committees or ministries. Currently, I am a lector. I have been a lector for 31 years. All of us have some talent, some people have more than others, but whatever our particular talent we should share it. I would also like to see more social events where the parish can come together to have fun in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

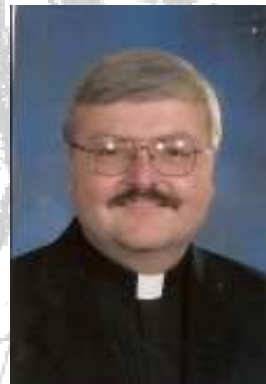
After the discernment process, I look forward to serving on the Pastoral Council of Jesus, The Good Shepherd Parish. I ask all parishioners to continue to pray for all future members of the Pastoral Council.



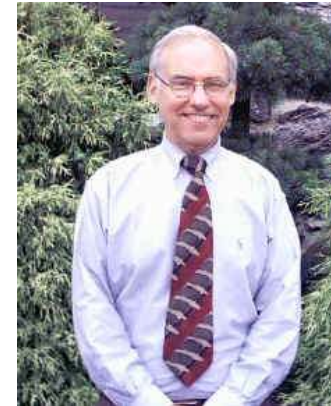
*Kathleen
Voelmle*



*Deacon Chuck Perkins
Clergy Representative*



*Rev. Edward Blanchett
Pastor*



*Henry Schwartz
Finance Council Representative*