

Minutes of the Pastoral Council Meeting December 28, 2009

Present: Fr. Edward, Deacon Chuck, Marie Busch, Kathleen Voelmle, Sebastino Bispo, Henry Schwartz

The Parish Pastoral Council Meeting began at 7:00PM with a prayer and Scripture reading.

Item One: Prayers were requested for Jeanne Hagarty during her illness.

Item Two: Council membership was discussed: Fr. Ed has contacted Tyler Hagan and John Rendfrey to consider becoming members of the parish pastoral council. Prayers were requested for their discernment and reflection of this responsibility.

Item Three: **Vibrant Parish Pastoral Councils** workshop will be held at the Parish of St. Francis and St. Clare in Florence Township on Saturday February 27, 2010. The workshop will explore four key principles for more effective Parish Pastoral Councils fulfilling the consultative role envisioned by the church. Deacon Chuck plans to attend.

Item Four: The Northern Burlington Deanery will hold **Council Conversation** meeting Thursday January 28, 2010 at St. Mary's in Bordentown. The purpose of the meeting is to provide planning skill development and share ideas with other Pastoral Councils. Jesus, The Good Shepherd Pastoral Council will attend. John will register the council members for the meeting.

Item Five: Father Angelo has been reassigned as Parochial Vicar to Christ the King Parish in Long Branch. There will be a farewell reception for Father Angelo following the 10 AM mass on January 3rd in Toth Hall. With Father Angelo's departure our Parish will only have one priest; some changes have become necessary. Father Guilherme will assist with the Saturday 7:30 PM Portuguese Mass and the Deacons will help with a communion service which will replace the Wednesday 9 AM Mass. Four priests will be ordained in May; there is a slight possibility of one being assigned to our parish.

Item Six: Discussion on Parish Pastoral Council Goals for 2010 (see goals below)

- Identify a person or group of people who could translate the Priest /Deacon weekly message and parish announcements in the church bulletin to Portuguese. This would be included in the church bulletin. in the weekly
- Encourage parishioners to use comment cards to assist the pastoral parish council. Announcement will be made at masses to encourage the use of the comment cards and in the bulletin.
- Begin the use of the Prayer Basket at St. Joseph. The prayer basket will be brought to Altar during the offertory. This will begin in January. Announcements will be made at masses to introduce the use of the prayer basket.
- The number of Altar Servers has increased over the past year. How to increase their participation was discussed.
- There is a need for programs that would focus on the youth and young adults of the parish. Council will reach out to other parishes for suggestions.
- To ensure the leadership for our parish we need the input of the parishioners; encourage people to participate, identify the needs of the different parish ministries, and the needed provide tools.

With no further items the meeting ended at 8:40 with a prayer. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 28th at St. Mary's in Bordentown at 7PM.

OUR MISSION

We, the people of *Jesus, the Good Shepherd* Parish, are a diverse Catholic community with Christ at our center and led by the Holy Spirit. We meet the challenge of our baptismal call through prayer, stewardship, lifelong faith formation and joyful celebration of the Eucharist. We strive to work together for social justice and the common good.

Our Goals

During Anno Domini 2010, we seek to carry out this Mission most particularly through our work to:

- Ensure Quality Pastoral Leadership for our parish
- Engage our Youth and Young Adults More Deeply in a Relationship with Jesus Christ and the Catholic Community
- Minister Effectively within our Ethnically-Diverse Parish Community