

Saint Joseph Cathedral Pastoral Council
Meeting Minutes
March 29, 2011

Opening Prayer:

- Michael Elton began the Pastoral Council meeting at 7:00pm.
- Father Gribble led the council with the "Prayer of Discernment".

Roll Call:

- Secretary April Griffith Taylor led the roll call.
 - o Absences –
 - **Michel Berry** Excused
 - **Michael Chow** Excused
 - **David Garick** Excused
 - **Deacon Jim Gorski** Excused
 - **Laura Farnham** Excused
 - **Mark Farnham** Excused
 - **Matt Harper** Unexcused
 - **Felicia Karkowka** Excused
 - **Nancy Thornock** Unexcused

Approval of Minutes:

- Michael Elton asked the council to refer to the February 22, 2011 Meeting Minutes for any changes or additions.
- Deacon Tom Johnston made the motion and David Owens seconded the motion to approve the minutes. Motion was unanimously approved by Council.

Rector's Report:

- Father Michael Gribble announced that he has asked that the Cunneen Company to help in his efforts to raise our contributions for this parish. The Cunneen Company are experts in helping parishes raise money and he has received good feedback from other parish priests who have used them.
- Father Gribble said that his main goal is to have the parish to be independent financially. Over the past year, the Financial Committee has been struggling with initiating electronic deposits because we are not the experts at this sort of thing (fundraising). Father Gribble read for the Council the enhanced stewardship appeal features and benefits:
 - The entire appeal is under the total and direct control of the Pastor, but we do the work!
 - Cunneen Parish Fundraising Services Inc., accepts full responsibility for the success of the appeal and guarantees the results in writing.
 - There is very little work to be performed by the Pastor, parish secretary or staff.
 - The appeal is low key, diplomatic, gentle and non-disruptive to normal parish routine.
 - The appeal gently introduces the parishioner to the concepts of Stewardship while requesting increased weekly support.
 - The appeal is conducted through three weeks of in pew talks, a brochure and four personalized mailings.
 - Every household and wage earner in the parish (including those which are doubtful) is contacted with a request to participate, ensuring that every member of the parish is treated fairly and in the same manner.
 - Everyone who responds to the appeal is sent a personal thank you letter within one week from the date of his or her response.
 - No one is asked to consider giving more that he or she can afford.
 - A positive response from the majority of the regular envelope users can be expected. The average weekly increase to the weekly offertory will be approximately 20 to 25%.
 - The increased offering is lasting because no pressure is applied and the requested increases are moderate and affordable.
 - The Cunneen Company offers a comprehensive Electronic Giving component so that parishioners can sign up to automatically transfer their regular offertory contribution (on a

- schedule they choose) from their personal account into the parish bank account.
 - The total cost of the appeal, including postage, is covered by the fee, which is based upon the number of persons and/or families to be solicited.
 - Most parishes recover their appeal costs in new income before the appeal has been completed.
- Father Gribble said that he had a talk with the Financial Committee and they agreed to employ the services of the Cunneen Company.
- Father Gribble said that his second goal is to have additional funds to support a greater PSR Program and an adult education class.
- Jim Schnug asked that if the Cunneen Company plans to give a business case reason for this campaign. Father Michael Gribble said that he will coordinate the fundraising efforts with parishioners and the Cunneen Company. Jim asked why we must be financial independent of the Diocese. Father Gribble said that the Diocese will not continue to help pay our bills. We can do this as a parish. This is *my dream* for this parish. We need a larger staff to help run this parish.
- Corey Schaal asked about the Cunneen Company fees. Father Gribble read the contract stating just what the fee adjustments the Cunneen Company will accept in lieu that we cannot raise to stated amount.
- Renee Morkassel asked Father Gribble if he satisfied with the membership calls that we made in the fall of 2010. Father Gribble said that he was not satisfied with the progress that we have made
- New translation of the Roman Missal. It is coming. For the Priest, there are a lot more translations. Changing for a more literal translation. An explanation will be placed in the bulletins using inserts to help prepare the parishioners. Jim Schnug asked about any translations for the children. Father Gribble was unsure, but will check on a possible children's translation.
- We earned \$25k form the Mardi Gras 2011, and the total is \$70k to date in our education fund at the Catholic Foundation.
- Father Gribble's third dream is to assure that the young people stay with our parish.

Deacons' Report:

- Deacon Tom Johnston announced that in remembrance of Deacon Jim Gorski's Dad, a check in the amount of amount of \$200.00 has been contributed to the building fund at St. Dominic's church in Youngstown.
- The Spring Summer Ministry Schedule will be published the week of April 10th.
- A rehearsal for Palm Sunday Readers will be scheduled after 10:30 am Mass on April 10th. We will be proclaiming the Passion of St. Matthews.
- The Deacons will proclaim the Passion at the 10:30 am Mass. The Presider and 2 Readers will proclaim the Passion at all other Masses on Palm Sunday. The Lectionary and the Book of the Gospels have been marked to show the five parts of the reading.
- All Holy Week LM's are invited to the 5:30 pm Supper on Holy Thursday. Please RSVP to Deacon Tom Johnston whether you will be coming or not.
- The ministry schedule will list rehearsal times for the Holy Week liturgies.

Chairman's Announcements:

- Michael Elton announced that Felicia Karkowka is going to be the Cathedral spokesperson on Catholic Radio Station on April 6 from 9:00 - 9:30 am. She will talk for 30 minutes.
- Michael Elton asked the Council for ideas on the topics to discuss.

Old Business:

- Corey Schaal / Parish Directory. Corey has spoken with the people who has completed the work for the directory. We have the software installed on our parish computers. Only two people are missing their pictures.
- Corey announced that the Parish Blood Drive was successful! 21 pints were donated and we met 124% of our goal. Don Leonard, Matt Harper and others helped out greatly with the pancake breakfast.
- Michael Elton /Pastoral Council Membership extension. Michael requested that Pastoral Council Members whose terms expire at the end of this fiscal year (April 30, 2011) need to send a letter of intent to Father Gribble acknowledging his offer of re-nomination before April 30th.
- Renee Morkassel / Solemn Exposition. Renee is very disappointed with the attendance and very concerned with the flurry of activity in the sacristy before the Blessed Exposition. Donna Sims asked Renee to speak with Deacon Jim Gorski about this project. Renee was asking the Parish Council if this practice should still be done at the Cathedral. Most of the Pastoral Council agreed to the importance of this practice and are supportive of Renee's efforts. Deacon Tom Johnston said that we can commit to a sign-up sheet.
- Marilyn Tomasi / Social Concerns and Justice Committee. Marilyn announced that this is a really busy time for the committee. They are focused on four primary components for the Lenten Project:

Operation Rice Bowl; Holy Family Soup Kitchen and obtaining volunteers to help feed the homeless in March and April; Mid-Ohio Food Bank needed to be moved every other month due to a great response from volunteers and Hunger Advocates who will support hunger in the area.

New Business

- Michael Elton announced two new committee's. Donna Sims is the Chair of the Stewardship Committee. Donna said that she had her first meeting with Father Mike last week. She spoke about the time, talent and treasure that we all have from God. Every committee has to think about volunteering more often. Donna read the stewardship mission statement for the committee. Donna said that she has a committee of 7 people who meet regularly each week.
- Michael Elton announced another new committee headed up by David Owens. The Liturgical Ministry Committee. David met with this committee last night and the meeting went well. Highlighted during this meeting was: MC training program (more routine), guidelines for the ministries, emergency guidelines for the ministries, review and evaluate issues and concerns of each ministries, conducting ministry gatherings, cross-training programs. This will be an on-going work in progress.
- Michael Elton wanted to discuss the annual Pastoral Council Retreat. Father Michael Gribble will provide dates that he is available to host this event. June 26th is the tentative date of the retreat. Joshua Wagner was mentioned by Father Michael Gribble as a guest speaker for our retreat.
- Donald Leonard wanted to mention that we will begin to collect ideas for the next issue of the Parish newsletter in June.
- Michael Chow wants to host a Facebook page for the Cathedral.
- Don Leonard announced that St. Vincent de Paul has reached out to the young people's committee and they have been working together on quite a few volunteering projects.
- James Desmond announced that June 1 is the Parish Ministries involvement night during RCIA.

Closed Session:

- No closed session was held.

Next/Future Meetings:

- Michael Elton said that the next Pastoral Council meeting be held on Tuesday, April 26th – 7:00 pm.
- Written updates on Committees and Organizations due to Secretary by Tuesday, April 19th.

Closing Prayer:

- Deacon Tom Johnston led the council in closing prayer at 8:53 pm.