



Saint Joseph Church

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Dear Parish Council Members:

The next meeting of the Pastoral Council will be held on Monday, October 15, 2007 starting at 7:15 PM with prayer in the Parish Center Basement. Please let yourself in through the front door or through the double doors facing the school. Meeting Agenda: Will be sent out under separate cover

Minutes of the September 17, 2007 Meeting

Members in attendance: Brian Brady, Katherine Broderick, Jean Deagan, Kim Donahue, Fr. Joe DiSciaccia, Pat Jodoin-Nelson, Lisa Kean, Tom LaPorte, Maria Ludena-Bendezu, Mary Jane Mamed, Fr. Jose Mercado, Lisa Monckton, Neil Richter, Ray Saucier, Pat Smatt, Rick Swenton, and Kathy Young, No visitors were present.

Opening Prayer led by Fr. Joe.

A welcome and introduction to meeting format was given by Lisa Kean and Fr. Joe.

Five copies of Today's Pastoral Minister will be available on a monthly basis for Council members to review.

Council members were invited to introduce themselves and the 2007-2008 roster was circulated to verify names, addresses, email addresses and telephone numbers of council members.

Council members were directed to several web sites for reference materials and copies of articles were distributed for further reading: <http://users.adelphia.net/~markfischer>; Defining Parish Ministry, Mark Fischer and In Search of Pastoral Excellence, David DeLambo; Excellent Catholic Parishes by Paul Wilkes. Also available are books for guidance in preparing group prayers.

Fr. Joe introduced the concept and invited discussion of a mid-year meeting to be held in lieu of the Jan 14, 2008 Council meeting. The meeting would be held in the Guild Hall and enable members of the parish to take part in another "open-mic" session to address issues and concerns in a public forum. The February meeting date would be held as a snow-date.

A 15 minute discussion followed and several suggestions were made:

- Provide status of work by Council to Date;
- Insert in bulletin to solicit questions prior to meeting that could be addressed either publicly or privately;
- Possibly use questions placed in suggestion box as discussion questions.

Fr. Joe will consider the options prior to making a decision.

Council members were requested to review and comment on the list of issues raised at the June meeting as future action items. After a brief discussion as to merits of each item, the decision of future action was tabled until the October meeting. Notable points raised were:

- The possibility of the Spanish community providing information/education to the Anglo community regarding traditional feast days, celebrations, etc;
- Jean Degan had made some inquiries regarding the issue of Spanish/English music ministry and the "crossing-over" between cultures;
- The consensus of the group was that Fr. Joe had done his best to address the issue of church decorum/etiquette and attire, but that it warranted refreshing on a periodic basis;
- The group agreed that the new "What Catholics Believe/RCIA" discussion series addresses the issue of ongoing adult Catholic education.

A request for a volunteer to fill the position of Recording Secretary was made. (After adjournment Lisa Monckton volunteered to accept the responsibility).

Mary Jane Mamed offered to lead prayer at the October meeting.

After a short closing prayer a group picture was taken for the Parish Directory. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Smatt, Acting Recording Secretary