



## ***Saint Joseph Church***

*149 Goodwin Street – Bristol, Connecticut 06010*

*(860) 583-1369 Fax (860) 589-5374*

*Email: [stjoseph@snet.net](mailto:stjoseph@snet.net) web: <http://www.stjosephbristol.org>*

Dear Parish Council Members:

**The next meeting of the Pastoral Council will be on March 15, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.**

### **Minutes of the February 8, 2010 meeting**

Opening prayer was led by Brian and Kathy Brady.

#### **Members in attendance were:**

Fr. Joseph DiSciaccia, Jean Degan, Lisa Kean, Kim Donahue, Brian Brady, Kathy Brady, Tom LaPorte, Lisa Monckton, Patricia Smatt, Jason Pawlik, Dean Plourde, Joyce Weglarz, Lynne Callnan, Michael Cambo, and Peter Chabot

There were no visitors in attendance.

#### **Comments from the Pastor**

- The Parish Mission begins the first full week of March, 2010. Please attend if you can. The Sunday night focus is on Haiti. On Monday there will be a performance of St. Paul and his Letters from the New Testament. Tuesday is Reconciliation and on Wednesday Fr. Joe will talk about prayer. In addition, Operation Rice Bowl proceeds will benefit Haiti.
- Fr. Joe asked the council if there any comments regarding the financial discussion presented at the Sunday Masses. The idea of online payment was also brought up for discussion. Comments were:
  - The discussion during Mass was appropriate because money discussions during Mass are rare so people were not bothered by it.
  - Online payments will be easier but may deter some people from coming to church on a regular basis.
  - People who on vacation can continue to pay without interruption.
  - Special collections can be set up.
  - Online payment is good for budgeting purposes.
  - It is important to work with parishioners to make sure that the account is set up when money is available in their account.
  - Parishioners will need to be educated on the new system.
  - We can assume that the younger-aged parishioners will be more likely to participate.
- Ministry appreciation night is Saturday, February 13, 2010.
- The ethnic potluck dinner is February 27, 2010 after the 4:00 Mass. A suggestion was made to send a reminder out through the school backpack system.

## **Group Discussion**

### **Parish Council Membership: St. Joseph Parish has talent – What talent do you bring to the council?**

Members were asked to read through the Clifton StrengthsFinder™ Themes in order to be able to identify and discuss which strengths they think they possess. All members were asked to participate fully in the discussion. The discussion was lively and interesting. The majority of the themes found within the council members were Achiever®, Harmony®, Analytical®, Inclusiveness®, Learner®, Fairness/Empathy™, and Communication®. Members suggested that this would be a good exercise to do at the beginning of the year in order for people to get to know each other better and to find out what talent themes the council members possess. It was also suggested that we set aside a day for Retreat or to spend time together in order to improve communication and self-awareness.

## **New Business**

- Rick Swenton did a study on the St. Joseph Church and St. Joseph School websites to see how the websites were being viewed. The websites have many visitors and people are using the websites to get information about the church and school.
- A topic for later discussion was brought up at the council meeting: How does St. Joseph Parish become more inclusive to singles and young adults?
- The June Open Forum meeting is June 5, 2010.
- The Biblical Justice meeting will be held on Saturday, March 13, 2010. Contact Kathy Young for more information.

We are doing well!

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on March 15, 2020.

Jean Degan and Rick Swenton will lead next month's Opening Prayer.

Following a closing prayer, the meeting adjourned at 8:40.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa Monckton  
Recording Secretary