

**SPN Pastoral Council Meeting
January 5, 2009**

Present:

Fr. Saloy	Louis Arrigo	Stacia Bua
Dan Crumb	Rebecca Derbes	Larry Dyess
Matt Holmer	Al Hoyt	Beth Johnson
Mary Spain	Jean Turner	

Opening Prayer: The meeting commenced at 7:30 p.m. with a prayer led by Larry Dyess.

Yearbook presentation:

Bonnie Dunlap with Olan Mills made a presentation to the Pastoral Council on her company's Church Directory Program. Ms. Dunlap stated that, based on our anticipated number of families participating, the Parish could expect to receive 11 "credit" pages (which the Parish could use as they wished) as well as complimentary pages for military members of the Parish. She further pointed out that Olan Mills has created "very flexible arrangements" with respect to orchestrating the completion of portrait taking. According to Ms. Dunlap, each Parish family would receive a complimentary 8 x 10 portrait and a complimentary directory. She also mentioned that Olan Mills can arrange any combination of the services they offer including "turnkey", Internet, church sign-up, etc. (Olan Mills will award 36 months of complimentary on-line directory services.) Ms. Dunlap also stated that the turnaround time for completion of the directory is generally around 6 to 8 weeks. Lastly, Ms. Dunlap mentioned that the photographs are guaranteed.

Website presentation:

Trey Green, the Parish's webmaster, presented statistics to the Pastoral Council on the newly created website. He pointed out that there have been approximately 700 "hits" to the site since it went on-line, and that approximately 25 – 30 census forms have been completed on-line. Lastly, Trey said his "near future plans" include adding: a picture gallery, SPN Parish archives, pictures to each ministry page, past Pastoral Council meeting minutes, and pictures and biographies of current Pastoral Council members.

Election of New Officers:

Jean made a motion to open nominations for 2009 Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Secretary positions. Jean Turner was re-elected Chairperson, Matt Holmer was elected Vice Chairperson and Stacia Bua was re-elected Secretary.

2009 Council Meeting Dates:

The Council made the following selections for meeting dates throughout 2009 and for January, 2010 as well as who is expected to lead the opening prayer:

February 2nd – Rebecca
March 2nd – Beth
May 4th – Matt
June 1st – Stacia
August 3rd – Dan

September 14th - Louis
October 5th - Larry
November 2nd - Mary
December 7th - Jean
January 4th (2010) - Doug

Approval of December Minutes:

Jean asked if there were any changes to be made to the December meeting minutes. Larry moved that the December meeting minutes should be approved as written, Mary seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Fr. Saloy Update:

Father welcomed the new members of the Pastoral Council, Dan Crumb and Beth Johnson. He also welcomed back Rebecca, Larry, and Mary, who were appointed, re-elected and re-appointed respectively.

Father also informed the Council that Father H. J. Adams will begin residing in the Parish rectory shortly. Father said that Father Adams, who was ordained in 1968, recently returned from sabbatical and is willing to celebrate mass at St. Philip Neri. In addition to these duties, Father said that Father Adams has agreed to temporarily take over duties at other parishes as deemed necessary by the Archbishop.

Father told the Council that Deacon Normand will not be coming to St. Philip Neri, but has decided to serve at St. Francis Xavier. He also said that the Parish may be informed in the near future if another deacon has been assigned to our Parish.

Father also spoke about the two seminarians from St. Philip Neri Parish. Kyle Sanders, the son of Craig and Harriet Sanders, is currently attending Notre Dame Seminary. Tim Hedrick, the son of Larry and Barbara Hedrick, elected to study for the Diocese of Baton Rouge. Father asked the Council to pray for Kyle and Tim.

Lastly, Father informed the Council that the Parish school is currently operating “in the black”. He said the school funds itself, except for \$75,000 per year for insurance which is paid by the Church (and that \$36,000 of that insurance is flood insurance).

Jean Turner Update:

Jean again asked for nominations for the Order of St. Louis Awards. Several candidates were nominated and submitted to Father.

Jean also asked the Council if anyone was interested in creating a Pastoral Council donation in memory of Deacon Ben, and it was decided that anyone interested should mail checks to Jean. Father suggested that we consider donating monies collected to a special fund that was created for deacons.

Jean gave the final update on the Adopt an Angel program. Over 600 gifts were collected, including gift cards. The Parish was able to supply over 175 families with gifts, as well as gifts for CASA. Additionally, Jean stated that Catholic Charities was “overwhelmed” at our donation, in that it filled “over half of their storage space”.

Jean informed the Council of the statistics concerning the recent census effort. She said that 1,494 census cards were recently filled out in church. It was pointed out that not all of those who completed a census card are registered in the Parish. Don Soignet will check the names received with those in our existing Parish database, and Father will send a letter to those not registered inviting them to join the Parish family. Don has also agreed to continue the “door-to-door” efforts to gather Parish family information, and census cards will be distributed in the Parish school as well.

Jean commended Matt and Louis on their efforts related to the recent Pastoral Council elections. Jean mentioned that they orchestrated the entire election process, including candidate recruitment, picture taking and ballot counting. Jean also stated that Don Soignet assisted greatly with the ballot counting.

Jean mentioned that Father will deliver a State of the Parish address during mass on the weekend of January 24th and 25th. Jean asked that we submit any suggestions for material to be included in this address to Jean by January 12th.

Old Business:

Family Gatherings: Rebecca offered that she has completed a tentative schedule for responsibility of the monthly family gatherings for the rest of the year. She also mentioned that the Cub Scouts will host a pancake breakfast on the first weekend in February.

Parish Newsletter: Due to time constraints, this topic was not discussed and was again tabled. It is anticipated that the subject of the parish newsletter will be addressed at the February meeting.

New Business:

Altar Servers: Rebecca said the shortage of altar servers has become a desperate situation. She stated that there are presently only 17 altar servers, and it has become extremely difficult to create a satisfactory schedule. Rebecca suggested that a new training class be initiated, as there are over 50 children currently interested in becoming an altar server.

Distribution of Pastoral Council minutes and agenda: Al Hoyt, as advisor to the Council, stated that there are certain members of other organizations that should be receiving information from the Council, including minutes, agenda and invitations to attend meetings. These are the following Ex-Officio members: School Principal, Chair of the Finance Council, School Board President and Director of Religious Education.

Issue of Holy Communion at Mass: Stacia raised the issue of a shortage of hosts at several masses recently. As an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, she said there have been incidences in which the ministers were extremely short of hosts and asked for suggestions to rectify the problem. Father suggested speaking with Jesse and Debbie Talley, who currently head the Hospitality Ministry. Stacia agreed to speak with the Talleys and report back to the Council at the next meeting.

Matt made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Louis seconded the motion. The meeting concluded at 9:50 p.m. with a prayer by Father Saloy.

Respectfully submitted by:

Stacia T. Bua