

**St James Parish Family
Parish Pastoral Council**
Meeting Minutes May 22, 2008

Members Present: Father Robert, Jim Fatula, Carla Gonzales, John Ingram Sr. and Hal Pawlowski

Guests: Maureen and Ralph Wydra

Members Absent: Bud Lucy, Brian Ferber, Nancy Welton, Ken Costigan and Matt Speicher

Please note that all individuals who have the responsibility for action items are identified in **Italicized Underlined Text**.

- **Opening prayer** - Carla opened at 7:10 PM
- **Acceptance of April minutes**
 - Minutes were accepted as written.
- **Staff reports**
 - Maureen reported nothing to report! The confirmation ceremony was a great success with full attendance. All went extremely well. The church structural updates are completed and went well.
 - Father asked we do more in the way of introducing ourselves at the tables during the welcoming breakfast to the newcomers. Circulate! General comments were that the breakfast itself went great. The food was more than was needed.
 - Liked the thought of including John's suggestion of name tags for Pastoral Council members at the Parish Picnic on November 16th. It was decided that is what we would do. Hal indicated any PC member without a name tag was to let him know..
- **Right To Life Social Gathering (John)**
 - John reported the meeting was a success with 21 church members attending. The speaker, John Jakubczyk was outstanding and did a great job of selling the need of RTL at St. James. All agreed in discussions that we need to do more. The objective is for our group to target becoming a part of the Arizona Right to Life Organization.
 - It was mentioned that we have to get our youth involved in the RTL activities. ***Hal to talk to Bev and enlist her to help getting them on board.***
- **New date for working session**
 - ***Jim will get a calendar of possible meeting dates out for reactions.***
 - Maureen mentioned a plan to limit all night meetings to Tuesday or Wednesday in June, July and thru the 15th of August. Everyone needs to adjust to save the cost of maintenance and utilities during this period.
 - ***Jim to see what date works for the Pastoral Council as Thursday will not be available.***
- **Apostles of Jesus Dinner**
 - Carla reported that there was a committee working on the attendance. The theme has been defined and material for the decorations has been obtained. There was some discussion concerning the AJ's colors and it was finally settled that it was gold and white as that was the colors used to paint the priest's home.
 - Special material has been obtained for "special" stoles for the visiting AJ priests.
 - Carla went through the menu planned. It was mentioned that the inclusion of the nut products in the salad precluded a number of folks buying tickets because of allergies. ***Jim was to contact Ken about leaving the nuts out.*** Ralph mentioned his concern about Ken over doing it with the cooking and urged we minimize his efforts in so far as was possible.

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- **Apostles of Jesus Dinner (Cont.)**
 - Drinks will be available, beer and wine, on a donation basis. After some contentious discussion, a keg of Bud Light was again recommended.
 - Father will have a prepared talk for the dinner, which will include the AJ's DVD.
 - It was emphasized that we need to announce the dinner from the pulpit for the next two weeks to get people to attend the dinner. Needed at every mass to get the message out to the folks.
- **Words from Fr. Robert**
 - Lengthy discussion on the need for increasing the giving to cover our expenses. Suggestions were sought.
 - Methods were discussed on getting all more active in meeting other members of the parish. Hal mentioned the festival was an excellent means of getting parish members together in an informal and fun environment. The parish picnic should be another.
 - Father raised the Parish poll as to any items not addressed. We felt the items were addressed in so far as they could be. It was suggested we use the previous poll question as a guide for a new poll to be circulated in September. It was further suggested we get a reading on the ethnic distribution of the current parishioners by including a (or some) carefully selected questions in the poll to that end.
 - Father indicated he had requested from the diocese another deacon because of the slowing of Deacon Jack and Allen. Father said he talked to a Deacon Carl Sandlier as a possible addition. Father noted that he speaks Spanish, which would be a blessing.
 - Father wanted to thank the council and the parish for hosting the AJ dinner and the enthusiasm in getting the visiting priests housed and welcomed. He also gave a special thanks to John Sr. for the efforts of the Men's Club in painting the rectory. He felt the results were great.
- **Future agenda items (Not Covered)**
 - Review bylaws after change in the PC mission statement
 - Still waiting for improved mass attendance data to react to Father's challenge
 - Building Committee update
- **Closing Prayer** at 8:50 PM by Jim.