

**St James Parish Family
Parish Pastoral Council**
Meeting Minutes February 28, 2008

Members Present: Jim Fatula, Brian Ferber, Carla Gonzales, Hal Pawlowski, Ken Costigan, Nancy Welton, John Ingram Sr., Bud Lucy.

Guests: Pam Hester, Ralph Wydra and Maureen Wydra

Members absent: Father Robert

Note from Brian: I felt that it was more appropriate to define the members who were not present as they are required for every meeting. Staff members are not required but are always welcome so the minutes should not infer that they should be present. In the future I will identify all those who are present and only members who are absent. All agreed to this approach. Ralph suggested that we separate members from guests in those present.

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

- **Opening prayer**
- **Acceptance of January minutes**
 - Two errors were corrected Mike Giacalone's name was spelled wrong and the partial supply of the money for the sound system (microphones etc.) came from the fiesta bowl raffle not the festival. Corrections were made. Minutes were accepted as amended.
- **Office reports, update on renovation of church.**
 - **The following were submitted via e-mail from Pat Schay:**
 - Unfortunately I will not be able to attend this Council meeting. I will be in LA at the LA Congress. "The Religious Education Congress, sponsored by the Archdiocese of Los Angeles Office of Religious Education, is the nation's largest annual gathering of Roman Catholics!" This is something that the Council might want to consider attending next year. recongress.org
 - Anyway, Family Formation is alive and well!
 - Due to the church building problems I have postponed Generations until the 2nd weekend in March. If the church is still not structurally sound I will cancel Generations for the month of March.
 - Generations: I am planning on adding an extra day (3rd Wednesday of the month) next year. I feel that the children are not getting adequate catecheses
 - RCIA is doing fine. We have a wonderful group of adults, preteens and teens. We shall have 9 coming into the Church and about 20 finishing their initiation into the Church. The Easter Vigil will be wonderful!
 - Sacraments: We will have about 80 kids making their Confirmation/1st Communion. And about 40 kids and teens making their Confirmation. This will take place on May 17th. Classes start April 2.
 - VBS is still in it's planning stages....our theme this year will be POWER LAB for JESUS. Jared will play a mad scientist.
 - I must confess that I have not done anything about the Children's Offertory Program. :0(

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- Norm Zimmerman is teaching the Adult Confirmation classes this year and doing a great job. He has more older-teens than adults, but he says he doesn't mind.
- Baptism Classes are doing well. The team is doing a wonderful job.
- I hope that I have covered everything. If you ever have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask...
- Again thank you for all of the work that you do for our Parish.....

- **The following were submitted via e-mail from Herb:**
 - Maureen has been assigned the point position on the church repairs and renovation. She can provide the latest information from the Diocese about the availability, timing, and cost of this work.
 - The Valentine Dance was a great success. I understand the food was good, the music well received and all had an excellent time. We learned a few things that can improve the event in the future. Pam can provide more detail on the finances but we netted \$6800.
 - The Fish Fry is going well despite the construction challenges. The Knights are handling all the purchasing and will turn over the net proceeds at the end. So far over the 3 weeks we have served over 350 meals and most of the feedback has been very favorable.
 - The Rummage sale that had been scheduled for 2/29-3/1 has been rescheduled for 3/7-8.
 - This weekend we will start the plea for help at the festival. Pulpit announcements will be made at all Masses and sign-up tables will be available. We will begin the pre-sale of ride and event tickets next week or the week after. We will be trying something new to reduce the issues with money handling and security. Tickets will be sold for \$.50 each and all booths will use tickets rather than money. This means the booths will not need to make change and money pulls will only be from 2 locations. The plan is to pre-sell these tickets also so our parishioners get a chance to save some money and avoid lines.
 - I have been approached about starting a Pro-Life group at St James. An organizational meeting is scheduled for 3/18. I have been in touch with Trent Horne at AZ Right to Life who started such a group at his parish and Armand Barone who is the president of the northwest valley chapter of AZ Right to Life. They are both willing to help and may be able to attend.

- **The following were reports made tonight:**
 - Maureen reported that the diocese has not provided a report on the status nor has the construction company who will be doing the repairs. Mike was able to finish the altar area repair/construction but the floor repair will have to wait for the diocesan report. Mass and stations will have to be in the hall this weekend. No one is allowed in the church area. SVDP has moved to another church for the time being and other parishes are being helpful. We do not know when we will be

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able to get back into the church. Safety always comes first. We are fortunate that this was discovered before anything happened.

- Maureen also mentioned that a parishioner has provided the remainder of the funding for the new microphones and sound system along with some of the choir area repairs/shoring up.
- Maureen shared that Deacon Alan has been doing the Psalms presentations along with Jim and they have been well received and they will continue for the next two weeks.
- Pam mentioned the link to the diocesan incorporation issues. Ralph added that the articles from the Catholic Sun are also on the web site. Also she reported about Catholicscomehome.com
- Pam mentioned that the new server required for the office had been partially funded but a new approach was suggested and implemented. The new server has been leased at \$125/month for 24 months and then for an additional \$1 it will become ours. Mark felt that it would be good for 8 to 10 years for us.
- Pam mentioned that the managers are working on the calendar and the budgets. CDA is only at 50 percentile. So far the penciled date is November 15th but we will have to come up with a budget. Pam will try to find some data about previous dinners. There will be two upcoming mailings, one about CDA and the other is the statements for the Offertory program but Pam is having difficulties with the server.
- Carla thanked the staff members for all that they do and this sentiment was agreed by all.
- **Teams commitment to Parish Council**
 - Jim mentioned that we as council members need to be more committed to being at the meetings. The working sessions will be scheduled and worked with whoever can make it. Jim reiterated the need for teamwork.
- **New youth member to Council**
 - All are to keep looking and spread the word
- **Next working session (plan date)**
 - Jim will send out e-mail
- **Volunteer dinner (think about date)**
- **Plan stations of the cross (Closing Prayer)**
- **Future agenda items**
 - Review By-Laws after the change in mission statement approved by Father
 - Father has asked us to review the Parish Poll to see if all items were addressed
 - Awaiting improved attendance data for future review of Fathers challenge
 - Father Robert's input about Pope Benedict's comments
 - Building Committee update