

**St James Parish Family  
Parish Pastoral Council**  
Meeting Minutes March 27, 2008

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

**Guests:** Ralph Wydra

**Members Absent: NONE! An excellent turn out!**

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

- **Opening prayer Nancy opened at 7:20** (Brian was late sorry)
- **Acceptance of February minutes**
  - Minutes were accepted as written
- **Staff reports**
  - **From Pam via e-mail as follows:** My regrets – I will not be able to make the meeting tonight.
  - The new server has been installed – and is working great! But, along with Easter preparations and the computers being down, the entire staff is in catch up mode for this week and on through next. Bear with everyone as we get the emails back under control!
  - Easter giving was down this year in comparison to last year. Church space being smaller definitely had an affect – Even with the overflow seating, all Easter Sunday Masses in the church were down: 7:30 – down \$1000, 9:00 – down \$1400, and 11:00 – down \$1800.
  - Next week is week ten and the final week of CDA. As of last weekend, we are at \$37,480 (61.4%) of our goal of \$61,049.
  - If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at the parish office – my extension is 108. I hope you all had a Blessed Easter! See you all at the festival!
- **Youth member** (All are to keep looking and spread the word)
  - **Brian** will e-mail the young adults involved with youth group and invite them to get involved with both of the committees
- **Plan next working session**
  - With the festival coming all agreed that May 18<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 PM until 4:00 PM would be the next possibility. **All** are asked to check their calendars for that date and reply to Jim by Thursday April 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- **Volunteer dinner**
  - The date will tentatively scheduled for November 16<sup>th</sup>.
  - John suggested that we make the general church picnic (like our Jubilee picnic) an annual event. Discussion followed that we might recognize the volunteers at the picnic and invite everyone from the Parish. The time would be 12:00 until 4:00. Additional planning will be required and **Jim** will add this to a future agenda. **Jim** will approach Herb to see if that date is viable.
- **Thoughts on Stations of the Cross**
  - All agreed that this was a wonderful experience and that we must be involved with the Stations of the Cross every year. We will repeat this year's presentation next year for those who may have missed it and there were requests for us to do so.

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- **Hal & John Sr, words about Right To Life**
  - This is a proposed new ministry at St. James. It is not associated with Arizona Right To Life at this point in time but that is a possibility for the future. John and Sue Ingram along with Hal and Caroline Pawlowski are committed to implementing this ministry here at St. James. They will be working with several current ministries for resources and organizing this ministry. Herb picked up some literature for the Parish and John shared some thoughts about getting involved. An organization meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5:00 PM. This will be a short meeting just to kick things off and begin to get the word out. Father shared that these are some of the kinds of things that he wants Pastoral Council to be involved with and success of any of these efforts are dependant on the passion of the people involved. John is offering to have a banner made for use at the festival. He is hoping to have a table and basic information available there. He and Hal will take that to the festival committee. Father is interested in hearing more and is in support of this at this juncture.
- **Father Robert's Words of Wisdom**
  - Father shared that his trip to the Holy Land was wonderful. He shared some of his experiences and the timing of Hal's phone call being right after the Stations of the Cross and so he felt that he was with us in spirit at our Stations of the Cross experience. Looking around the room we all seemed to hang on his every word as it sounds like it was just a wonderful experience. He will be sharing his experiences with the parish on April 13<sup>th</sup> and will have some of the others who were with him come to share as well.
  - The church repairs are progressing. The shoring has made the church safe for use temporarily. The Diocesan construction group has been meeting with father and the architect is providing a plan to the Diocese and then they will get contractors to do the repairs. We are waiting to hear from the Diocese on the progress and what the cost will be. Until then we will have to use the church as is. Father is very impressed by our parishioners and how they are dealing with this issue. The carpet people are recommending that the concrete needs to cure for a period of time and once it has cured then they will carpet the usable portion until we can get the rest of the repairs made.
  - Father shared that we are uncertain about the one Confirmation date being sufficient because there was potential for problems if the church is not complete. They have made tentative plans for a second date in the event it would be needed.
  - Father asked about the strategies we have discussed about approaching the Hispanic community. Members shared some of the things that have been done in the past but have not happened recently. Discussion followed about several ideas and father asked if someone from the council would take the lead for keeping this idea flowing. Silvia Lopez was mentioned as a potential resource. **Carla** and **Hal** will take on the role of organizing this effort at father's request.
  - Father shared with us some interesting information about his, Father John's and Father Chris' order of the Apostles of Jesus. He shared that the order were honored with their first bishop last year and also that they have a new superior general. They are also celebrating their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. There are a number of things involved with these including celebrations. Father shared that the order now has the responsibility of supporting the seminary for their order. He is in charge of the southwestern area and that they are thinking of having an evening with the parish sharing information about the order.

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- **Other**
  - Ralph shared that we should be communicating the fact that we will not be having masses in the hall any more.
- **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
- **Closing Prayer at 9:02 PM**