

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

Members Present: Fr Robert, Jim Fatula, Carla Gonzales, Hal Pawlowski, Bud Lucy, John Ingram, Sr.

Members Absent: Nancy Welton, Brian Ferber, and Ken Costigan

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

- **Opening prayer** – Jim/Carla opened at 7:16 PM
- **Reflections on the Readings**
 - How do we draw parishioners to offer their talents to parish activities? Welcome breakfast was well attended and had a larger number than usual of new parishioners. We discussed follow up with those new folks to make sure we take fullest advantage of their experience and background. **Hal to get with Mary Ann regarding the newcomers and get a contact list.**
- **Acceptance of July minutes**

Minutes were accepted after correcting Carolyn's name spelling.
- **Staff reports**
 - Father noted that the prayer list introduction and wording has been changed to require the permission of the person added. It has been updated and that wording has been carried over to the web site. Hal indicated that change has been added to the web site as well.
 - Discussion was held on "pulpit" talks regarding the need for added Pastoral Parish Council members. It was decided that 3 added members are being sought.
 - Need to firm up details of the parish picnic. Discussed games, food, cleanup and making sure all elements are covered. John discussed having a pancake breakfast as a fund raiser to fund the food for the picnic. The picnic is scheduled for 12 to 4 on November 16th. We will form a planning committee to pull things together. All details will be firmed up at our next meeting. **Jim will send out email as needed to tie down the details.** It was suggested that it would be neat if we arranged that all kids get a prize. **Bud urged we again offer the face painter and agreed to contact her** to see about her involvement.
- **Parish poll**
 - We made minor changes on the fly and edited the document and saved them.
 - Hal brought the camera to the meeting for anyone who wants a new picture for the poll/web site. No one indicated an interest so what is there stays there.
 - Carla suggested we add a half pager in the bulletin with the PC symbol circled by word encouraging folks to get involved. **Hal to pull that together and submit for publication.**
- **Right to life ministry**
 - John met with Fr Robert regarding including a handout in the bulletin, on the position of the major candidates with respect to right to life. September 27th and 28th would be the weekend we would have to get the message out regarding the Respect for Life Sunday of October 5th
 - Fr Robert urged we combine a dedication to the Blessed Sacrament with our RTL effort.

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- **Words from Fr Robert**

- Father challenged the PC to develop activities to excite and involve the church members.
- Fr Robert emphasized that this is the year of St Paul and suggested we spend time on his writings. ***Hal was to see what might be available in the way of a 45 minute presentation on the efforts and contribution of St Paul.***
- Fr Robert also asked our participation in preparing the Advent Mission. Msgr O'Grady was suggested to conduct the 3 day mission.
- Deacon Allen will teach a class regarding St Paul's efforts in the early church. A schedule was not available.
- On October 12th from noon Our Lady Of Guadalupe will be honored in a ceremony in the square downtown. Father was encouraging the PC to organize attendance by parish members.
- Father indicates the weekly second collection has been going well and we are planning the parking lot sealing and striping as the next activity.
- Father discussed the theft of the AC unit and it's replacement. Question was how do we protect the new equipment from damage and theft.
- Discussion centered on the need for upgrading the kitchen equipment.
- Still looking for a replacement housekeeper. Father has interviewed a parishioner and sounds like she will work great.
- **Staff reports** - Note that the followings is a reproduction of an email from Pat regarding Family Formation Activities.
 - On August 9th, I held our first Catechist retreat for all catechist under the Family Formation area, i.e. Generations; Sacraments; RCIA; and Baptism Prep. It was a wonderful experience and the Holy Spirit was with us thru out.

Registration for Generations of Faith and Wednesday night RE classes have begun. We are including a fee of \$150.00 for non-parishioners with really little resistance.

I have also started a Home Schooling program for children who can not make to standard classes for some reason or just choose to be home schooled. So far we have had two sign up. These children will come in every other month for a written and oral test. Plus Father Robert will also meet with them.

Registration for Reconciliation Classes will begin in October. The fee will be \$25.00 for all participants.
- **Closing prayer Jim** closed at 9:12 PM