

St. Gerald Parish Pastoral Council
March 8, 2012

Present: Ryan Sevcik, Jamie Zabrocki, Mary Morss, Sharon Bissen, John Prosocki, Joe Kalina, Joan Luebbert, Glen Bennett, Mike Rasmussen.

Absent: (none)

Also Present: Father Owen Korte, Judy Haug (Recording Secretary), Mary Harper (Director of Religious Education, John Bolas (Parish Business Manager)

OPENING PRAYER

I. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING (January 2012): Approved.

II. GUEST REPORTS:

Religious Education Report: Mary Harper. *No written report.*

- 282 students this school year.
- St. Teresa of Avila has been selected as patron saint of our Religious Education (RE) program. Mary has obtained a relic of St. Teresa.
- Class periods have been extended 15 minutes to allow for gathering time.
- Donated rosaries were given to all students.
- Karen Le Mense, the school music teacher, has been helping with the RE students.
- Seminarian and parishioner Scott Schilmoeller gave a presentation to the students during gathering time.
- RE students have participated in a Living Rosary, Benediction, Stations of the Cross, and a presentation of the Sorrowful Mysteries.
- The first RE Children's Liturgy will be Saturday, March 31 at the 5:00pm Mass.
- Early registration for next year will be offered in April.
- Classes are being offered for catechetical training. The goal is to have all of our catechists certified.
- Mary is recruiting for catechists for next year. She will interview prospective teachers.
- An Appreciation Dinner will be held on May 9 as a thank-you to this year's volunteers.
- Planning has begun for Totus Tuus in July. We can accommodate 180 students.
- A Religious Education Advisory Board has been formed and has met.

Budget Report/Presentation: John Bolas. *See Attachment 1.*

- John explained the budget process and then highlighted figures on the proposed budget for FY2012-2013.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

School Board – John Prosocki. *No written report.*

- Testing will be added for kindergarteners. (Students must now be five years old by July 31 instead of the previous date of October 15.) Passing the test would allow those turning 5 after July 31 to begin school that year.
- The accreditation process continues.
- On-going maintenance continues at the school.
- Min Thapa, a part-time Technology Aide has been hired to assist Sara Hood.
- Planning continues for the stage conversion. The work will begin after school dismisses for the summer.
- The Athletic Committee has proposed adding a T-Ball program.

Social Committee – Jamie Zabrocki, *No written report.*

- Refreshments will be served at Forty Hours Devotion on Sunday and Tuesday.

Parish Education – Sharon Bissen. *No written report.*

- Sharon provided updates for the Parish Committee Contact List.

Stewardship – Joe Kalina. *No written report.*

- No meeting in February.
- Helped with dinner/presentation sponsored by Bob Kment and Five Points Bank.
- Stewardship talks were presented and stewardship forms were distributed to the congregation.

Maintenance – Joan Luebbert. *No report.*

- There was no meeting in February. The March meeting is next week.

Liturgy – Mary Morss. *No written report.*

- Sacristan(s) is/are needed for the 7:30am Sunday Mass. (Continued on Page 2)
- Altar Servers will be getting additional training.
- John Feda reported that everything is running smoothly with the Parking Lot Patrol ministry.
- It has been recommended that evening/early morning Perpetual Adorers park by the Chapel door under the light.
- Additional greeters are needed.
- There was high attendance at the Ash Wednesday masses.
- Upcoming, special events are the First Communion for the school students, First Communion for the Religious Education students, and Confirmation.
- Some of the ministries are experiencing frustration with their volunteers.

Human Needs – Glen Bennett. *No written report.*

- Becky Koenig, the coordinator for the monthly meal preparation for the Siena/Francis House, has been replaced by Gina Sands.
- A parishioner has suggested that we have additional food drives throughout the year. Fr. Korte suggested that we have parishioners donate gift cards from the H.O.P.E. Program, that would be used to buy groceries. Or a quarterly collections is another option. Fr. Korte to consider options before making a decision.

Finance – Mike Rasmussen. *See Attachments 3 & 4, Condensed Income Budget Report, December 2011 and January 2012.*

- Trying to find a way to increase teacher salaries.

IV. PASTOR'S REPORT

- Decisions from the Meitler report have been delayed to evaluate parish feedback.
- Looking for by-laws for the Finance Committee regarding term limits.
- Will have paid security during 40 Hours Devotion.
- The Altar Server awards ceremony was held, with 4 servers from the school and 2 from RE being honored.
- Otto and Frances Klosterman put St. Gerald Church in their wills. Their estate will be distributing \$300,000 to our parish. Fr. Korte wants the following allocation of the funds:
 - \$100,000 to be placed in an endowment fund for tuition assistance.
 - Expenses for the stage renovation.
 - Expenses to extend the school playground/parking lot beyond the current fence.
 - \$50,000 for debt reduction.
- Fr. Korte would like to conduct a “mini”-campaign to have parishioners match the Klosterman bequest.
- Fr. Korte would like to create a sinking fund for maintenance expenses.
- Fr. Korte will be participating in the “Good Shepherds-Good Leaders” 3-year program offered by the Omaha Archdiocese.
- The Mission for Lent 2013 has been scheduled.

V. OLD BUSINESS:

- John Prosocki has been reviewing the current Parish Council by-laws. He distributed copies (see Attachment) with his suggested changes. John, Ryan, and Joan will review for presentation at the April meeting.
- Three parishioners expressed an interest in Parish Council at the Stewardship Fair. Will look to recruit additional candidates for an election. Ryan will have an announcement placed in the bulletin.
- Sharon suggested that the Parish Council meeting minutes be posted on the parish website. Ryan and Judy will make arrangements to do so.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

- The parish budget was approved as presented.
- A draft of the new parish Mission Statement, developed at the February meeting, was presented and approved.
- New committee liaison assignments will be made at the May meeting.

CLOSING PRAYER/ Adjournment

Next Meeting: **Tuesday**, April 10, 2012 at 7:00 pm in the School Library.

ST. GERALD PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
Projects for 2011-2012

Project	Co-Ordinator	Status
Enhance Welcoming aspect	Mary Morss	Mary will research suggestions. Women's group has been formed with various activities scheduled.
Research parish council by-laws	John Prosocki	John has obtained a copy of the current by-laws. 3/2012 John made suggestions for changes. Will be presented at April meeting.
More Parish Council involvement in the budget process	Mike Rasmussen	Mike will try to get a 2-step process for PC approval of the budget. First pass of budget review will be at the February meeting. 3/2012 budget approved. COMPLETED.
Online prayer request/ church prayer basket	Jamie Zabrocki	Currently available on stgerald.org but still need a volunteer to coordinate. Advertise that prayer request book is in the Chapel.
Research scheduling software	Judy Haug	Cheryl has the software module. It has been updated and is available for viewing on stgerald.org. COMPLETED.
Long-Range Planning	Fr. Korte Ryan Sevcik	Wording for the Parish Mission Statement is being discussed. 3/2012 New Mission Statement presented and approved. COMPLETED.

Last updated 03/8/2012

