

**St. Mary's Parish Pastoral Council  
Meeting Minutes: January 5, 2012  
7:00 pm, Parish Library**

**Present:**

Anne Bleistine  
Marilyn D'Andrea-Spica  
Brian Eltz  
Fr. Leo Goodman  
Chris Masterson  
John O'Brien  
Heather O'Brien

Alan Pawlikowski  
Rick Poillon  
Steve Sacco  
Terry Warco  
Mathew Weitzel  
Fran Sescilla  
Joe Clupp

**Excused:**

Sharon Walker  
Don Peris

**Proceedings:**

The meeting was called to order by Terry Warco at 7:05pm. There was a scriptural reading of Matthew 2:1-12, followed by open discussion of the Question of the Week: "If not gold, frankincense, and myrrh, what gifts do I offer Christ the King?"

Approval of Minutes:

At this time the minutes from the December 1<sup>st</sup> meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Matthew Weitzel, seconded by Steve Sacco, to approve these minutes. After a chance for all to be heard, the minutes were unanimously approved by the council.

Chair Remarks:

At this time Terry Warco reviewed members excused from the meeting. He informed the council that he had received a letter of resignation from John Blowers for both Parish Pastoral Council and Preservation and Development Committee. John's contributions to the councils will be greatly missed. With his resignation, Terry stated that there are now two openings for PPC. The first is for the vice chair position and the second is for the evangelization mission head. He asked members of the council to take a month to think about whom they would like to fill these vacancies and at the next PPC meeting he will be accepting nominations from the floor. These positions will be held until June. Mathew Weitzel asked what the expectations were for each position and Terry explained them to the council as follows:

Vice Chair – facilitates agenda items, takes the chair's place if he is unavailable, meets with the chair and pastor once a month to discuss the upcoming meeting and agenda items, and helps keep the chair in check.

Mission Head – reviews the duties of the ministries, acts as communicator between PPC and ministries, receives and reviews reports from ministries.

### Mission Reports:

*Pastoral* – report submitted.

Father Leo stated that Jet Visniski has been having issues with recycling for hospitality and is possibly looking for someone to pick up these items and take them to a recycling center. Members briefly discussed possible ideas on how to handle the situation and Father Leo agreed to look further into the issue to see how much recyclable material is being generated and where and how it could be transported.

*Education* – No report submitted.

No concerns were addressed.

*Evangelization* – no report submitted.

See approval of minutes for concerns.

*Ecumenism* –no report submitted.

No concerns were addressed.

*Social Justice and Welfare* – report submitted.

No concerns were addressed.

*Liturgy* – report submitted.

Father Leo stated that we are in need of a children's liturgy coordinator for the parish.

*Family Life* - No report submitted.

Joe Clupp apologized and stated that his report was mistakenly not sent out.

Father Leo asked the members of PPC to review the parish website for corrections, though many council members said they were having a lot of trouble viewing it due to problems with using internet explorer 8.

### Pastor's Report:

Fr. Leo stated that there are two courtyard lights that are currently out and being worked on, and that they are looking into the possibility of getting one placed on a timer.

He stated that the Lancaster CTC is currently renting two rooms in the school building and are very pleased with everything thus far. They are thinking this could be a long term relationship and are in the process of setting up an adult care center. He also asked for their input on the Legacy Project, as they would help offset the cost.

He stated that all of the Rediscovering Catholicism books were taken during the masses.

He also stated that the March for Life will be January 23<sup>rd</sup> and he is offering staff to go as a paid day, so the rectory will be closed that day.

### Old Business:

Small Group Social Gatherings:

Terry Warco asked members if they had any questions or concerns regarding the social gatherings website and if members thought it was ready to be launched. Council members discussed ways to advertise it and encourage parishioners to use it. Terry stated that Kathy Setlock had offered to create a bulletin insert and to make herself available after masses and during hospitality to discuss it with parishioners. Some members thought the website seemed a little plain and wondered if it could be decorated to match the parish's website. After a chance for all to be heard, Anne Bleistine made a motion, seconded by Rick Poillon, to launch the small group social gatherings website and to prepare a bulletin insert to publicize the launch. This motion was unanimously passed by the council.

#### Devotions Education and Promotion:

Terry Warco thanked Brian Eltz for all of his hard work and efforts with the novena that recently concluded. Members of the council were asked for their comments and suggestions. Anne Bleistine shared that she liked that it was in the bulletin and was private and doable. Joe Clupp commented on how it was posted to Facebook every day. Overall, the feedback was positive.

#### New Business:

##### New Roman Missal:

Terry Warco asked council members for their feedback on the New Roman Missal as well as any comments they have heard from parishioners. Steve Sacco stated that he has heard a few complaints about the Gloria being too technical and difficult to sing. Joe Clupp added that he felt the same way initially but it has actually grown on him. Brian Eltz added that since we now have our own version it may make going to other churches a little less comfortable. Brian also stated that he has observed positive use of the cards in the pews. There have been issues with these cards falling on the floor through the cracks of the holders and Terry Warco stated that they are looking into adding felt to the holders to prevent this from happening. Overall there was lots of positive feedback from council members and many members expressed how they appreciate the richness of the new language and feels it brings them closer together.

##### Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Terry Warco asked council members to discuss how we can promote and encourage participation in the sacrament of reconciliation. Members discussed obstacles to the sacrament such as timing, location, feelings of not being able to go to your own priest, screen preference, the need for better education on the value and meaning of the sacrament, the possibility of having an enthusiastic person talk about their positive experiences with the sacrament, handing out pamphlets or CDs on the sacrament, having Father Leo talk on it, or the possibility of tying it into Lent with the novena group. After the open discussion Terry thanked the group for their feedback.

##### Rediscovering Catholicism Books:

Father Leo stated that there has been a lot of positive feedback regarding the Rediscovering Catholicism Books. Members then offered their own feedback regarding the books. In general, members shared that it is readable, has a great start that draws you in, and is very moving. Father Leo stated that Adult Ed. will be using this book as a discussion book in the future.

##### Other New Business:

Fran Sescilla asked Rick Poillon for his power point presentation on Hospitality 101 and is trying to revamp it using some information she gathered from the diocese. She hopes to have it ready by the next parish council meeting.

Joe Clupp stated that February is a good time to start preparing for elections and that the council needs to select an elections committee.

Terry Warco reminded council members that the PPC will be serving the soup dinner for Ash Wednesday which is February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Father Leo reminded council members that January 29<sup>th</sup> is the annual stewardship dinner and asked mission heads to pass this along to their ministries so that all are invited.

Acknowledgements:

Terry Warco thanked Brian Eltz for his novena work. He also stated that he appreciated all the feedback that council members provided during this meeting. He thanked Father Leo for his wonderful leadership during the Christmas Season. Chris Masterson thanked Father Leo for opening the parish for the New Year's celebration. Mathew Weitzel wanted to acknowledge the ushers for their great job making everyone feel welcome during the Advent and Christmas Season.

At 8:40pm a motion was made by Steve Sacco, seconded by Joe Clupp, to adjourn the meeting. This motion was unanimously passed by the council. Father Leo closed the meeting with a prayer.