

Holy Family Parish Pastoral Council Minutes

September 13, 2009

Attendees: Frank Tenaglia, Pat Costello, Mary Leahy, Katy Horgan, Kevin Williams, Andrea Heinstadt, Tom MacDonald, Frank Hogan, Father Bryan Parrish, Father Sean Maher

I. Welcome Father Sean to his first Parish Pastoral Council meeting

II. Review of June Meeting minutes

- One correction: there will NOT be another Mass of Hope and Healing at Holy Family this fall, although there may be somewhere else in the diocese and if so will be announced in the bulletin
- Since June, Kathy Melia was hired as the new Religious Ed. Secretary
- Connecting Catholic Families raised \$850. for Cradles to Crayons in August at 2 bake sales

III. Discussion of PPC members' terms

The following members' terms are up in October: Pat Costello, Tom MacDonald, Frank Hogan, Andrea Heinstadt, and Neal Doherty. This will be their last meeting. Father Bryan hopes that in October we can nominate new member names (and get suggestions from bulletin notices) of parishioners who desire to serve the parish in this capacity. Father Bryan would like to have a balanced board that represents different aspects of the church community and parishioners with different interests. We shall use a prayerful discernment process to make the selections. Hopefully, we will also be able to recruit some new youth members in March, as the current youth members are all seniors and will be going to college, etc. next Fall. Father Bryan feels that it is important for the terms of members to be three years only so many people have a chance to be involved in this church leadership position.

IV. Parish Picnic

This annual event will take place **Sunday, September 20th** and is sponsored by Connecting Catholic Families. Besides good BBQ food there will be a kids DJ, sports clinics and scrimmages, crafts, cotton candy a bounce house and FUN. Frank T. and Andrea H. will handle the shopping.

Next years' date will be September 19, 2010 (booked to ensure that it is not displaced by any other events.

V. Father Bryan presented his hopes for a parish directory to be compiled by the pastoral council this year. The Directory will serve several purposes: it will unite the parishioners, it will be a guide for parishioners seeking a point of access for involvement in our parish's community, it will assist in organizing our parish with the others' in our area when the time

comes for a transition to a one priest (or less) parish. Father Parrish suggested that the ministries of the parish be organized to fit under one of the following categories: **Worship, Formation, Administration, Outreach, and Community**. Next meeting the PPC will spend time organizing the ministries this way. Once done, contact people will be identified and will meet with the parish council members to communicate their missions, brainstorm, etc. We will formulate answers as to how to move forward with this directory and how we will keep it updated from year to year. Father Bryan hopes to have the directory completed this year (by next Spring, 2010).

VI. New Business

*Meeting minutes will go to Frank and Father Bryan for review and then to council members so they can get reviewed before the next meeting

*Frank Hogan asked that Holy Family support the International Day of Climate Action on October 24, 2009. This event is sponsored by the group 350.org that hopes to reduce the Earth's CO2 emissions to 350 (currently at 389). Over 1400 locations worldwide would ring their church bells 350 times to draw awareness of this cause. Father Bryan thought this was a good idea for several reasons: as Catholics we are stewards of God's creation (Earth) and this will bring awareness to our parishioners and community of that aspect of our spirituality AND Holy Family would like to support the Interfaith Council in their endeavors when possible. There was some discussion of the pros and cons of the action (cons: frightening for community to hear all the bells going off for such a long time; too loud; too political a cause) however at the end it was decided that Father Sean and Father Bryan would decide how long the bells would be tolled (perhaps not for as long as 350 times) but that we would participate. This compromise proved acceptable to the council.

*Katy Horgan discussed Connecting Catholic Families coat drive. Essentially, she is looking for organization to donate the coats to. Many suggestions were made including the Plymouth Coalition for the Homeless, St. Edith Stein parish in Brockton, the Interfaith Council, needy parish families.

* Mary Leahy discussed a new book group that she is forming at Holy Family targeting non active Catholics who might be interested in discussing books about being a Christian in Today's Society. She met with Father Bryan about it this summer and is trying to schedule the first meeting mid-October.

*The website is currently being addressed and being updated. The new Parish Administration Staff will be taking over ownership of updating it to make it more relevant and useful for parishioners.

*Maryellen Steele will have a more limited role at Holy Family now as she is fulltime at St. Joseph's in Kingston. More people will be recruited to assist in this ministry.

* The next meeting will be Sunday, October 4 at 7pm in the Herrick Room.