

MINUTES FROM PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING
August 3, 2011

PRESENT: Fr. Bill, Tim Geers, Donna Thompson, Mark Zurlinden, Charlie Quehl, Kathy Waldeck and Janet Davis

ABSENT: Paul Justice and Tom Salerno

REVIEW MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING: Minutes were reviewed and accepted from the July 6th meeting.

SCHOOL REPORT: Tom was present and no report given.

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT: Fr. Bill reported the current school year enrollment has dropped to 125 from 141 last school year. He is concerned as is the entire pastoral council, of our current enrollment situation. Council is discussing how to evaluate it with the parishes ongoing commitment to our faith based education. The parish has assisted the school annually in the amount of about \$300,000 per year. The parish's fiscal year that just ended left us with a deficit of \$91,000 which would have been \$81,000 MORE, except funds were used from both the Stievenard Fund and from Fr. Mark's generous donation to St Bernadette Parish. After much discussion, it was decided that Fr. Bill was to contact Jim Riggs of the Archdiocese to see if he would meet with some on council, Fr Bill, Tom Salerno and Bob Armstrong. We need a path and a plan.

PASTORAL REGION PLANNING COMMITTEE UPDATE: The committee is made up of 3 reps plus the pastor from each parish (St Thomas More and St Bernadette) and Jane Meyers the consultant from the Archdiocese. Our parish is represented by: Fr Bill, Donna Thompson, Sarah Holland and John Sawyer. The first meeting is Tuesday, August 9. There will be approximately 2 meetings per month for 8 to 10 months.

FR. BILL'S JOB DESCRIPTION: Fr. Bill reviewed his own job description to council, then each member shared their ideas of what he does, what he should do and should not do. Part of the purpose of doing this, is for council to begin to ponder what the needs of the parish are, how they may be handled and by whom in the future (especially with the idea of sharing a priest), and to hopefully help Fr. Bill be healthier both physically and spiritually.

GOOD SHEPHERD PROGRAM: This is an extensive, 2 year program for priests to help them be better leaders. Fr. Bill has decided to participate beginning October of this year. He will be gone 29 days over the next 2 years, but feels it will be enlightening for him and help him tremendously. It is highly recommended by both bishops Schnurr and Binzer.

ROMAN MISSAL-EDUCATING PARISH COUNCIL: It is 16 weeks away until these major changes are to take place. An idea that may be implemented will be for the 8 weeks prior, each Sunday during the Homily, Fr. Bill will review parts of the Mass, what happens at Mass, what is the Mass all about, etc...

FALL PASATORAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS: Council reviewed the schedule for the election process. The dates were set for nominations, questionnaires, and responses election weekend. Kathy and Janet will take charge with Tim's assistance.

PASTOR'S CORNER: Fr. Bill reported he has not received any responses back yet concerning pastoral deacons to come to St. Bernadette.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, September 7, 2011

FAITH FORMATION: Paul Justice