

St Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish

Pastoral Council Meeting

September 12, 2011

Members Present: Len Beranek, Tom Bertram, Francis Brown, Shelly Copeland, Les Giesler, Shelly Linskey, Betty Schultz, Andrea Stupi, Lawrence Warzynski

Staff: Fr. John Parr, Deacon Matthew Ludick, Sister Bridget Donaldson, Patrick Brueggen, Mary Jacobson, Rebecca Schumacher

Excused: Amy Gleason

1. Opening Prayer
Council members listened and reflected upon the 25th Sunday of Ordinary Time Scripture readings.
2. Welcome and Introduction and Approval of Minutes
Minutes of the May 2011 were reviewed and approved. Once approved, minutes (hard-copies) will be available to parishioners and also on the parish website www.seasholmen.org

The Council welcomed Fr. John Parr and new council members, Len Beranek and Shelly Linskey.
3. Roles and Responsibilities of the Pastoral Council
Fr. Parr commented on the roles and responsibilities of the Pastoral Council. Fr. Parr indicated there are consultative roles played by the Pastoral and Finance Council. The Pastoral Council is responsible for the overall general welfare of the parish whereas the Finance Council is responsible for the temporal goods of the parish. Charity and unity must prevail during the consultative processes. Members of the Pastoral Council are both elected and appointed. Pastoral Council members bring wisdom to the table which is essential for the parish to grow. The vision of the Pastoral Council is to form a consensus and find ways of discerning our Lord's will without discourse. Programs and committees at SEAS are to share in this vision. Pastoral Council is the "Keeper of the Dreams" – where is our Lord leading us?

At the next meeting members will review the Parish Mission Statement.
4. Parish Joy / Strengths
 1. Generosity of parishioners i.e. Food Pantry, time
 2. Adult Education efforts (faith sharing groups, Marian catechetics, etc.)
 3. Friendships (Knights of Columbus)
 4. Parish offers and fosters a family atmosphere
 5. Relatively young parish and the large number of children is a gift
 6. Celebration of the Sacraments, especially Sunday Mass. Quality of music is consistently high
 7. Parish strives to be good stewards
 8. Welcoming
 9. At times of sorrow as well as joy the parish is approachable and caring
 10. Good and devoted parish staff
 11. Homilies

Parish Weaknesses / Cross

1. Need to develop better channels of communication and making needs known and better understood
 2. Not everyone experiences the parish as welcoming. Must work to develop broader ownership of the parish
 3. Status of the proposed building project
 4. Diocesan Appeal
 5. Need to develop more creative ways of giving and increasing income
 6. Need for parish renewal to bring healing to a parish fractured by poor communication
 7. Develop ways of bringing home to the church many parents of students enrolled in religious education program
 8. New ideas for fundraising
 9. RCIA program
 10. Liturgical Ministries formation
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5. New Roman Missal
Video and discussion tabled until next meeting.
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6. Dates for Future Meetings
Thursday, October 13th at 6:30 pm Note: will meet at Dickinson Funeral Home this evening
Monday, November 14th at 6:30 pm
Monday, December 12th at 6:30 pm

Meeting concluded with prayer at 8:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Jacobson