

Pastoral Council Minutes – July 13, 2010 - 7:00PM

In attendance: Thuy-Nga Casey, Rafael Anaya, Rafael Manriquez, Lani Vandehey, Todd Schmit, Felipe Sayago, Fr. Jeff Meeuwsen, Michelle Tunnell (Admin. Ass't./Recorder), Helen Goff, John Krebsbach

Absent: None

Admin. Council Representative: None

Guests: from Movimiento Familiar Cristiano (Christian Family Movement): Noe Torres & his wife Leticia Vásquez (and daughter Génesis) to observe and see where they can help meet needs

Attachments: Final Approved By-Laws from last meeting; Good Councils Part I and II (with copy of old By-Laws attached); Archdiocesan Document on Pastoral Councils; Meeting Notes/Thuy-Nga's Notes from May 2010 Vicariate Meeting of Pastoral Councils

Meeting Called to Order at: 7:04 pm

1. Opening Reading and Reflection-Fr. Jeff

Luke 10:38-42 ~ Jesus in the house of Mary & Martha

Reflections:

- *“Welcomed”* -Fr. Jeff feels welcomed and accepted, thanks largely to the Pastoral Council's role in forming the mission of the Parish.
- *“anxiety”* -pressures and worries of the workday & how we need to learn to let go
- *“burdened by much service”* juxtaposed with Christ's words *“My yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”* (Mt. 11:25-30) The challenge is how to live/experience that in daily life while meeting necessary responsibilities.
- *“chosen the better part”* - grateful to serve in a position that gives life
- Daily life full of *“anxiousness and worry”*; need total trust in God's Providence to choose the “better part” and walk in faith and be free of that worry
- *“serving”* - making life changes through service, overcoming fear to serve on the Council when invited by Fr. Jeff
- *“help”* -wife (Juana Francisco Ignacio) of one of our Hispanic parishioners (Jesús Francisco) passed away today & help really needed, parishioners have stepped in to meet need; God is gracious.
- *“joy”* - “it will not be taken away”; simple joy of picking blueberries with gratitude to God for His gifts; stop and seize moments of simple joy
- *“worry over many things”* - Only one thing is important => call to service.
- *“anxious”* -learn to let things go and experience relief

2. Approval of June Minutes: The majority of members at this meeting are new and were not present at last meeting; approved as submitted by those present at both this and last meeting.

3. Admin Council Report-Fr. Jeff in lieu of an Admin. Council member

- Financial Report – They had to make some adjustments to the finances due to the emergency replacement of the Parish House roof. Plus, a pipe subsequently burst in Fr. Jeff's wall, and the wall, pipe, and water damage had to be repaired/replaced.

- An extra fund-raising opportunity came up with Hispanic Prayer Group – “corunda” sales coordinated by Martha Gómez and Ana García. They will do this several times a year to help the General Fund. They already brought in about \$500 from the previous sales. The next one is this coming Sunday, and there will be another one in August. Subsequent dates are to be determined.

- Anthony House - They will move ahead on finalizing replacing the heating/cooling unit and the windows this summer. Some of the money will come from the Archdiocese Safety Grant and rebates from the Energy Trust of Oregon.

- New members of Admin. Council appointed: Jesús Cornejo, Alfredo Elizarrarás, Ed VanDyke. They followed the same process as for the Pastoral Council.

- The school heat is still an issue--it's always “on” the way it's wired. The Maintenance Committee is still working on it.

4. By-laws – Good Councils Q & A

- Todd e-mailed these forms along with this meeting's agenda.

- Background Information: Every 3 years the Archbishop convenes an Assembly where each parish sends representatives from their Pastoral Councils; this last one was in November '09. There are speakers, meetings, continuing education, and a chance to work with others in the Vicariate to share information, plus appoint members to the Archbishop's Pastoral Council. (Sandy Zajdel from Hillsboro is our Vicariate representative.)

- This year's topic was on forming more effective councils.

- Thuy-Nga just attended the annual Vicariate meeting in May (for everyone, each spring), and her notes were attached to the agenda by Todd. [Regular Vicariate meetings are approx. every 6 weeks and rotate among the 7 member parishes (just for Staff and priests) – forum for information-sharing, networking, discussing best practices, common problems.]

- Faith Formation, Multicultural, Youth } current goals set as priorities by these meetings.

- We can get a copy of the Nov. '09 presentation by dynamic speaker Mark Mogilka, who presented two alternatives for councils (and hinted at his preferences for the best councils) and showed how each parish needs to determine which to adopt. **Action Item:** Fr. Jeff will look into it.

- There will be another opportunity to attend a tri-annual assembly 2 years from now, and Todd highly recommends it.

- We used the Good Councils talk to help modify our By-Laws and adjust our approach as a Council.

- Rafael Manriquez summarized how the Hispanic ministries of local parishes coordinate for their prayer groups (calendar, etc.) and are working so they don't all meet the same day of the week to provide more options in the community. All the coordinators try to meet once a month. John Krebsbach shared how he's witnessed the Spirit calling the Anglo and Hispanic groups to combine after the decline of Anglo Catholic charismatic groups.

- Action Item:** Fr. Jeff asked Rafael Manriquez to make a presentation about the *Luz y Esperanza* prayer group at an upcoming meeting and we'll formally put it on the agenda.

- The Vicariate stressed the need to more effectively publicize events between parishes.

- Action Item:** We'll make additional time next meeting to answer questions since new members had not all had the chance to read the "Good Councils" document.

5. Selection of Officers: We welcomed new members. Officers are to be selected annually per the new By-Laws. They are eligible if have served on the Council 1 year. The Chairperson meets with Fr. Jeff the week prior to the meeting to set the agenda, and other members communicate topics/action items to the Chairperson. The Chair leads the meeting and helps keep everybody on task to conduct business and end the meeting on time. The Vice Chair does the above if the Chairperson can't.

Thuy-Nga, Todd, and Felipe are current members eligible to be the Chairs. Felipe has been the acting Vice Chair for the last couple of meetings but would prefer not to continue. Todd agreed to continue serving as Chair and Thuy-Nga as Vice Chair. No vote was needed.

6. Responding to your Baptism - Fr Jeff

- Ongoing education is one of goals for the Council.

- Baptism symbolizes the death and resurrection of Christ. He referenced the *Rite of Baptism for Children* and the *Order of Christian Funerals* (death in Christ, Mass of the Resurrection; same symbols as baptism).

- He paralleled the Rite of Baptism and the Funeral Rite.

- Our name is expressed at baptism; we are called by our name in Jesus Christ at the beginning of our life. We have a responsibility as parents to bring up our children in the faith and to keep the commandments of loving God and loving our neighbor. We call the person by name first also during the funeral.

•The Liturgy of the Word is geared toward death and resurrection. All the prayers include death and resurrection, being surrounded by Community of saints, and the faithfulness of Christ. We mark the person with the sign of faith/sign of the cross on the forehead. We call upon the saints to pray for us. He traces the sign of the cross on the deceased's forehead. We will be reunited with our bodies at the Last Day. We call down on the Holy Spirit to come down to the font of the baptismal waters to open Jesus' death and resurrection to us. Holy water is used to sprinkle the casket as well.

•After baptism, children are clothed with a white garment, symbolizing Christian dignity from the theology of St. Paul to "*put on Christ.*" We cover the deceased with a white garment, too. White symbolizes wearing Christian dignity, unstained in the Christian life. Similarly, altar servers wear white albs. The family and friends of a person to be baptized must be examples of Christian dignity.

•We receive the light of faith in lighting the baptismal candle. Keep the light burning. The Easter Candle is also lit at funerals. There is an intricate connection of keeping our death ever before us.

•Oil is used to protect us and keep us safe from evil: oil of catechumens (anointed with armor on our breastplate; makes us "slippery" so the devil can't get a grasp), given sacred chrism on our head (we are a priest, prophet, king in name of Jesus Christ). We are to be a prophetic people and judge to what extent the world is or is not following the Gospel. We are called to pray for everybody as a priestly people. We are called to worship God in our daily prayers and actions, especially by participating as one people (Body with its head of Christ) at Mass with the sacrifice of praise in the Eucharist. We're a kingly people in governing as Christ does and helping the poor and helpless (take care of creation and the human being from birth to death).

•The Pastoral Council is to be all these things. We must proclaim the Gospel in our life and words. Family Bridge is a perfect example of putting all this together in Jesus and living it out in a kingly and serving way.

•In summation, keep your death and the death of Jesus before you. Our Hope is to rise with Him.

•**Action Item:** Fr. Jeff encourages Council members to re-read the By-Laws for their connection with our baptismal call.

7. New member Q & A about being on the Council.

•Fr. Jeff recommends reading the last couple months' worth of minutes (in your binders) for background information.

•Rafael Manriquez will share some of this information with the prayer group.

•Meeting minutes are available in the Office in a binder for anyone to consult.

•There were no questions this meeting, but we'll keep this agenda item open for next meeting.

•Todd is available to gather questions/topics for the meeting.

•Rafael Manriquez requested Council member phone numbers. We passed around a sheet for people to note their phone number and e-mail address for Michelle to append to the bottom of these minutes.

8. Parish Picnic:

- The annual picnic is sponsored by the Pastoral Council.
- Sunday, Aug. 22 is the date, and Fr. Jeff booked Roger's Park from 10am-6pm.
- Next meeting, we'll plan based on what we've done in past years and assign duties (set-up, cooking, kids' games, ball games).
- It usually begins after the Noon Mass.
- The Parish provides hot dogs and hamburgers, and the parishioners bring an item/dish to share "pot luck." The Hispanic Community may need further education on this Anglo custom.
- We could do a theme again this year, i.e. World Cup.
- Council members can also recruit more help from the parish community.
- We'll start announcing 7/31 to mark your calendars and save the date.

9. Group Photo-Taken tonight.

10. Other Items for the Good of the Order

a.) Lani:

- Was there ever an official thank-you sent to the retiring/outgoing Council members? Fr. Jeff and Todd can do that at next month's preparatory meeting.
- Additionally, John K. suggested that Todd and/or Fr. Jeff thank those parishioners who were nominated but not selected to serve to let them know the Body of Christ is supporting them and acknowledges their gifts. That could prompt some more to active ministry. Office volunteers could assist with these letters and have Fr. Jeff sign them.

b.) The "Movimiento Familiar Cristiano" presidents (Noe Torres and his wife Leticia Vásquez) came to introduce themselves and will give a more detailed presentation another time. They're on the committee of the Christian Family Movement. They're part of geographic area #2 out of 6 (how the Community is divided). They would like to help at the Parish Picnic.

While the members were getting their photo taken and Staff remained in the Conference Room, Leticia had shared about areas where they could teach. They would have to research if they can get information for Natural Family Planning, but they do have engagement retreat materials. They also have materials for parents and single moms. They often meet in homes in groups of 4-6 couples. They've invited Fr. Jeff to give a talk to the full assembly that meets twice a year (at Advent or Pentecost). This is a cross-parish group. They could ask the president (Felipe Sayago's brother, José Luis) to give a formal presentation. Claudia and Jesús Cornejo started the group.

The Council would like to know what they do so we can best support them. This is the first year they're bringing materials to the Hispanic Community. All programs originated in Mexico and have to be approved by the

Archdiocese. They will ask José Luis for material to include in the bulletin and on our Web site.

c.) Thuy-Nga can go to next week's Admin. Council mtg.

•**Action Items:**

- Todd will fill people's names in the monthly Admin. Council attendance schedule (below). If you can't make it, please swap with somebody else.
- Todd will e-mail copies of the 5-Year Plan.

d.) Lani and Fr. Jeff are working on an engaged retreat for the fall (in English), especially for those who have a hard time making the Engaged Encounter away/out of town. They will also have a trainer come to train more mentor couples for marriage prep. We're hoping for bilingual couples to come. We have approval from the Admin. Council to train up to 5 couples. We're working on a Fall Adult Education series on prayer: "*Lord, teach me to pray.*"

e.) Rafael said that the Hispanic Community is asking for a CHM, especially later in the day when the Hispanic Community is seeking to talk to someone. Fr. Jeff is working on a plan with Heather to be more available in the evenings. There is no current plan to hire somebody.

- We don't have a music coordinator, either. We need to discuss how we can do the best we can without one and continue to encourage people to step forward.

11. Closing Prayer – Night Prayer: Fr. Jeff

12. Adjourn

Meeting Adjourned at: 8:59 pm

Admin Council Attendance 2009-11 3rd Tuesday @ 6:30 pm

July 20, 2010	Thuy-Nga Casey
NEW DATE: August 3, 2010	
September 21, 2010	
October 19, 2010	
November 16, 2010	
December 21, 2010	
January 18, 2011	
February 15, 2011	
March 15, 2011	
April 19, 2011	
May 17, 2011	
June 21, 2011	

Pastoral Council Members & Terms of Service

Date Began Service	Council Member Name	Term Expires
9/2005	Todd Schmit Todd.Schmit@arrisi.com (503) 539-1304	'11
7/2006	Tweena Casey tweena@gmail.com 503-329-2237	'12
5/2009	Felipe Sayago no eml; 503-357-7699	'12
7/2010	Rafael Anaya anaya91377@hotmail.com 503-330-2266	'13
7/2010	Helen Goff pelicanwatcher@hotmail.com 503-359-5058	'13
7/2010	John Krebsbach dr.john@groveweb.net 503-357-5390	'13
7/2010	Rafael Manriquez: Rafaman_86@yahoo.com 503-442-5137	'13