

# Parish Council

*“We find Christ here. We bring Christ to the World.”*

## Minutes of April 24, 2010 Meeting

Meeting began at 9:15 a.m.

**Members Present:** Fr. Ken, Linda Wahlert, Carmen Lane, Scott Wood, Paul Tartabini, John Lockwood, Dave Dwyer, Barbara Tucci, Bill Collins, Bill Burke, Shorty Melendez, Mary Chapman

### Pastor Updates:

- **Expansion Feasibility** –we are still in the information gathering stage. Fr. has received a few e-mails and there will be another listening session after 2:00 Mass this Sunday; the first listening session was not well attended; Fr. still encourages parishioners to contact him by e-mail ~ after this weekend, Fr. Ken will collate and forward the information to Council. *(Mary will forward Dave’s e-mail regarding the first listening session for those Council members who did not receive it)*
- **Fr. was in Richmond at a priest’s meeting** ~ There will be a new **Sacramentary** (book w/ all the prayers) – some of the wording of prayers in the Mass will be changing. The final approval of changes could happen within the next 5-6 months (probably around Aug/Sept in time for Advent). Prayers in Spanish also have a few changes, though some have already been a part of that Mass (ex. Penitential Rite). How to implement? There is no change in theology or the order of the Mass but it will help better recapture the theology of the Mass.
- **Fr. met with the School Board and the Church Finance Council** together. This was a first that these groups have met. Initiated dialogue. Fr. spoke w/ Sr. John Paul and would like to do some coordinating with the school regarding projects (ex. fundraising). ~ Fr. would like to form committees to include Development Director of OLMC School (Michelle Smith).
- **School connection and church** – we need more than coordination between school and church ~ some members see the 2 as separate entities and expressed concern regarding what percentage of school families who are registered at OLMC Church actually participate in parish life and financial support of the parish...we need to be one united - Fr. explained that financially (per the Diocese) we are required to be separate and stated that there are many ways we can integrate our efforts ~ Fr. expressed that the school is a ministry of the church and Michelle would love to have help and **Council determined that we need to invite Michelle to a future meeting so she can elaborate more on her role:** also, **Council would like to invite Sr. John Paul** (Principal of the school) ~ continued discussion regarding School/Church – Fr. would like to form a committee not just for fundraising, but to coordinate an activity together
- **Youth summer programs** – Youth will be fundraising. They have several formation and mission activities planned for summer: Steubenville (praise & reconciliation), Notre Dame (Fr. will be attending since it’s our first visit), Eastern Shore (mission), DYC (Diocesan Youth Convention), St. Miner, IN (teen geared in depth study of the Mass) ~ we need to provide time and space to honor fundraisers for these events
- **Communication** – our communication systems are not being utilized to their greatest potential (ex. web page, e-mail); some members expressed concern that the web site is not up to date – question raised “Are we satisfied with the web site?” Some feel the content needs to

improve ~ the content is only as good as what is submitted; timely updates need to be made  
~ pictures – there was a directive from the Diocese regarding pictures (Mary will find out more)

### **Old Business:**

1. **John Chesney visit** – Bill C. spoke to him about access to PDS system by PC and it was determined that Mary and Tina will have access as needed for planning – they are to contact John to set it up.
2. **Ministry Liaison Roster** needs to go on PC page on the web page
3. **Facility Needs Assessment**- still in info gathering stage – Is there going to be a formal time for staff to have input? Yes, at the next staff meeting.
4. **Retreat Planning** – Results of Listening Session of 4/17 were good. The first team planning and experience will occur this summer and will discern additional teams. Looking to realize mini Retreats/Encounters on alternating months for men and women. First program is “Living Christ” encounter which will also be available in Spanish. Recommendation for bilingual Hispanic team to experience it in English and bring it to the Spanish speaking community.
5. **PC meeting dates confirmed with Fr. Ken** – we will add July 23 as fellowship picnic at Bill B.’s house followed by PC meeting on July 24 at Manion Hall. Future meeting dates: 5/22, 6/26, 7/24, August – off, 9/25. Fr. will set up the next discernment session for prospective new council members.

### **Liaison Committee Report**

1. Vicom provided a sound system estimate of \$14K for new sound system~we have \$3K from St. Cecilia concert. There will be another concert on 5/20 to fundraise so please promote it. The weekend of 4/24 Vicom will set up one of 4 proposed speakers for the new system so we can test it out.
2. **Collection down** – possibilities: snow, attendance, commitment, economy ~ brainstorming ways to inspire more giving; we are encouraged to promote **e-giving** on a recurring basis (set it up and it happens automatically each month or week, etc. whether able to attend Mass or not) Suggestion to set up table to explain the process and have people available to help set it up on the spot. **What does our financial picture look like?** Fr. will e-mail council current financial info. Fr. will address finances w/ parishioners at future date.
3. **Ministry Assignments** – clarification of role: members of Council assigned to ministries to touch base with the groups as a point of contact to voice concerns (ex. who needs \$, support, volunteers) – not required to attend all meetings but just call the leadership in these ministries and ask if there’s something they would like highlighted or addressed at Council. Results from these reports? Fr. gets info he needs to know and can act on it as needed; Fr. listens to concerns and addresses in some kind of order

Liturgy/Worship – Shorty & Barbara  
Social Ministry – Linda/Carmen  
Youth – John/Paul  
Administration – Bill C./Barbara/Mary  
School – Bill C./Bill B.  
Hispanic Community – Tina/Scott/Mary  
Parish Community/Family Life – Tina/Scott  
Adult Faith - Barbara



## **Ministry Reports**

1. **Social Ministry** – Linda spoke w/ Mary Ann who is retiring in May. Mary Ann expressed some thoughts on future needs of Outreach ministry. Space is an issue ~ food pantry is cramped, Pregnancy Solutions closet small; no handicap access and the steps leading to the Outreach office need railing especially for the elderly clients (*Inclusion Committee is also addressing these issues in overall plan*). Fr. encourages participation in advocacy and opportunities to promote Social Justice. Mary Ann stated she has a great list of volunteers and that the project of “Fill the POD” netted about 2,000 lbs. of food from the participating groups. Regarding her position: Fr. Ken is interviewing candidates
2. **Columbarium** – Some parishioners interested in establishing committee for funerals and Columbarium (Tom & Carol Breitbeil, Howard Griffin, Lucy Oliver)
3. **Adult Faith Formation** – Next AFF meeting is 5/3 @ 6:30 p.m.
  - 1) Retreat opportunity on the eves of 8/16-8/18 – Fr. Dan Clem & Debbie Stahlery will facilitate the topic “Living Wet: Living Out Your Baptism”
  - 2) Feast Day is 7/16 – Parish Picnic is 7/18;
  - 3) RCIA is in “sponsor recruitment” mode~ with a new group of Inquirers, there will be a Rite of Welcoming soon.
  - 4) Lenten Mission was great but many expected the final joint celebration as one community (facilitating priests changed the format)...will try for an integrated service next time. Fr. Patrick Keyes will return end of May to celebrate Mass in Spanish
  - 5) Triduum was great – added Mass at 12:00 also well attended along with all the other Masses – deacon aspirants appreciated the experience and many appreciated the bilingual Mass (we are getting better)
  - 6) New training for Eucharistic Ministers date TBA – clarification for Team Leader
4. **Hispanic Community** - **1)** Choir has missed rehearsal times due to rehearsal space being used by others (space is signed out to them) ~ please check calendar; **2)** not enough time between 2:00 and 4:00 Mass for Hospitality piece – Fr. suggested cafeteria or St. Michael Hall

## **Heard in the Pews/Other Business**

1. **Request for hymnals # boards on wall** - was addressed before– Council investigated possibilities and final decision by Fr. Ken was that this was not a feasible solution – Fr. stated that when something is put up in the worship space as a permanent fixture it becomes holy and cannot be removed
2. **St. Michael Hall landscaping need** – space is looking needy – Some parish families have “adopted” spaces where plots are assigned ~ we will follow up
3. **Clarification needed on who is on the Parish Council/Parish Staff Liaison Committee** – some discussion regarding Council representation in this committee ~ Reference was made to 3 members being selected from Council to represent (see August 2009 PC Minutes) ~ concern about decisions/invitations being made outside of the Council meeting ~ efforts of the Liaison committee have been fruitful ~ open invitation is great but just needed to be brought to the Council first since the nature of the selection changed ~ This is an important committee which advises Fr. and Staff and it was determined to officially make it open invitation to any Council member who is available and wishes to attend.
4. **Sacramental wine changes?** – wine has been changed and will change again

**Meeting adjourned at 12:00. Next meeting is 5/22.**

**Question of the Week: Mary**

**Food: Tina**

**Closing Prayer: Rafael**

**Respectfully submitted by Mary Chapman, Secretary**