

University Parish of Christ Sun of Justice
Pastoral Council Meeting
Wednesday, 4 May 2005

Present: Fr. Ed Kacerguis, Marie Venaglia, Rosanne Rose, Bill Webster, Heather Scoffone, Mark Meehan, Ann Brinnitzer, Christopher Rainey, Brandon Graver, Matt Kosara

Absent: Sue Gutmann, Matthew Cusack

Faith Formation and prayer:

Ann Brinnitzer led the Council in Evening Prayer.

Minutes:

The minutes of the April 6, 2005 meeting were reviewed, corrected and approved.

Pastor's Report:

- The summer mass schedule, 5:15 p.m. Saturday and 10:00 a.m. Sunday, will begin Memorial Day weekend (28-29 May), and continue through mid-August when the students return to campus.
- The Bishop's Appeal is in progress. A report can be found in the bulletin. A significant portion of the parish contribution comes back to support our activities.
- Our fiscal year ends 30 June. The budget is on track. Cash flow is always tight in May and June, but the resources are adequate.
- Pastoral planning is going forward in our diocese. Our cluster is working together well. The weekend Mass schedule has been coordinated to insure coverage should any emergency arise. We have also produced a parish/cluster profile which is becoming a model for the diocese.
- During the summer, the cluster parishes (Christ Sun of Justice, St. Bonaventure and Our Lady of Victory) will not have daily Mass when their respective pastors are on vacation. Parishioners are invited to attend one of the other two parishes.
- Marie will be leading summer faith formation programs for both children and adults. The cluster parishes will be invited to participate.
- In the fall, faith formation will follow "Generations of Faith", a program for all ages in the parish. The theme will be the liturgical year, and the entire community will be encouraged to participate. It is important to note the difference between faith formation which is a continuing process, and sacramental preparation which will be addressed separately. A calendar of events is currently being developed.

Chaplain's Report:

- Marie reports that she has had a very busy month including:
 - “Accepted Students’ Day” on 9 April
 - Meetings with Newman Fellowship to plan the 2005-6 program
 - Deanery meeting 3 May concerning Pastoral Planning
 - Delivering the homily at 9:00 am 3 April and 5:15 pm 23 April

Chair's Report:

- Results of the parish survey are being compiled. A number of hours have already been devoted to this and more help is needed.
- All committees need to prepare an annual report by 15 August. Plans for next year, including any specific resource requirements, should also be described. These materials will be presented at the annual meeting of the Rensselaer Newman Foundation.

Committee and Organization Reports:

Faith Formation Committee (Marie)

- Faith Formation classes concluded in May. We are grateful for the generosity of our volunteer catechists.
- Marie continues in the certification process for “Becoming A Minister of Faith Formation” (BAMOFF) and meets with catechetical leaders in our deanery each month.
- Marie attended Ministry Day 16 April and gave a workshop on working with volunteers.
- Marie attended a “Publishers’ Day” (4/26) to review catechetical materials.

Social Concerns Committee (Marie)

- More volunteers are needed to help with the food collection.
- Our Ministries form has been updated
- Pillows are no longer needed for Joseph House. SUNY Albany had the “world’s largest pillow fight” and was able to donate 500 pillows.
- The committee will meet in August to update flyers/posters for the parish picnic.

Newman Catholic Fellowship (Heather):

- The MS Walk on 1 March received close to \$1000 in donations.

- There was a shower for David and Leah. They received a family bible from the Newman Fellowship.
- The Newman Fellowship was represented at Accepted Students Day. A Power Point presentation was given to familiarize the future students with our programs.
- The fall program is being planned.

Knights of Columbus:

- John Goslin has been selected as the next Grand Knight of the RPI Council.
- There will be a Mass for the graduates at 5:00 p. on Thursday 19 May.
- The Knights cooked a dinner for Joseph's House.
- The Knights also participated in Accepted Students Day to reach out to the next freshman class.

Other Business:

Officers: The Pastoral Council has selected the following members as officers for the 2005-6 year:

Rosanne Rose	Chair
Christopher Rainey	Vice-Chair
Bill Webster	Secretary.

There will be an investiture ceremony after the 5:00 p.m. Mass on 4 September, before the Parish Picnic.

Parish Survey: Analysis of the responses is on-going. It is already clear that there was a good response - more than 270 questionnaires were completed, representing all the weekend Masses. A large majority, over 80%, expressed satisfaction with the current Mass schedule.

The St. James School project was discussed. While the overall response has been excellent, it would be desirable to promote a greater sense of connection between our parish and the school. Bill will look for information on the internet.

Meeting schedule: The Council decided to continue meeting on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m.. The schedule for the 2005-6 year is:

7 September 2005	8 February 2006
5 October 2005	8 March 2006
2 November 2005	5 April 2006
7 December 2005	3 May 2006
18 January 2006	7 June 2006

The following proposed rules for the nomination of officers were considered. It was decided that it would be more appropriate to use them as guidelines than to make them a part of the by-laws.

10 April 2005

University Parish of Christ Sun of Justice
Pastoral Council
Nomination of Officers

- Officers are elected each year at the May meeting. The officers to be elected are Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary. The officers should include students. If the Chair and Secretary are non-students; the office of Vice-Chair should be held by a student.
- Previous to the meeting all members of the council will be canvassed to see if they would like to place their name in nomination for office or if they would like to nominate another council member for a particular office. This will be done by a member designated by the Chair who will be called the Nominator.
- Outgoing members of the council are not allowed to nominate officers; all current members (including ex officio members) can nominate.
- Ex officio members cannot hold office.
- At the May meeting the candidates for each office will be presented to the membership by the Nominator. If there is more than one candidate for a particular office, the candidates will be asked to leave the room while the council prays, deliberates, and chooses one of them to serve.