

SEPTEMBER 2008 PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES

(9/10/08, 6:00-7:00 PM, C+CC Lounge)

<u>Present:</u>	Harry Cooke, Wilson Crone, Jacquie Fable, Frederick Gallo, Paul Kraus, Joe Grimaldi, Fr. Ed Kacerguis (Pastor), Marianne Monastero, Kelly Rigby, Marie Venaglia (Chaplain), Brenda Williams (Chair)
<u>Not Present (Excused):</u>	Jim Brennan, David Dziewulski, Fran Hyde

The meeting began with prayer led by Mr. Grimaldi.

Chair Report:

- Self-Introduction of Council members for 2008-2009.
 - President; Brenda Williams
 - Vice-President; Joe Grimaldi
 - Secretary; Wilson Crone
- Approval of April 30, 2008 minutes; Mr. Crone will forward to Jill Wishon, C+CC director, for posting.
- Mission Statement for the parish has been updated online, and is seen on the weekly bulletin: <http://www.rpi.edu/web/C+CC/bulletin.html>
- Welcoming picnic on August 31, 2008, was successful, with informal large turnout.
 - scarf collection at picnic has increased from 58-77-111 from 2006-2008.
 - registration and student enthusiasm appear to be increased as well.

Pastor's Report:

- May 2008: annual Mass for seniors
- July 2009: World Youth Day, with Mass, picnic, Christian rock concert, and simulcast of Papal Mass all went well. As a result of set up for the simulcast, the C+CC is now more connected with the campus.
- Summer 2008: Hubbard Hall (<http://www.hubbardhall.org/>) from Cambridge NY performed *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* at the C+CC, and are booked for a return in Summer 2009.
- *Called to be Church* submitted materials in the Sacristy if parishioners are interested. Diocesan reviewing committee comments on the document will be unlikely until January, with no changes planned for the parish or the linked parish of Our Lady of Victory (OLV) until their return.
 - Both the parish and OLV have noticed approximately a dozen regular newcomers in the last month, presumably in anticipation of Troy city parish changes.
- March 2009: most of Lenten Wednesday series speakers have been confirmed that they will attend:
 - 3/4/09: Dr. Mary Ann Getty-Sullivan
 - 3/11/09: Rev. Lawrence Boadt, CSP
 - 3/18/09: Dr. Daniel A. Helminak
 - 3/25/09: author Liz Kelly
- The combined effort of parishioners, Knights of Columbus, and Rensselaer Newman Fellowship have all been very helpful for achieving goals for the C+CC.

Chaplain's Report:

- Rensselaer meetings/programs:
 - Summer: assisted with "Visiting Days" on campus.
 - July and August, 2008, participation in student orientation sessions (over 1300 students in the entering freshman class).
 - Upcoming: Medalist Day and Open Houses for prospective students.

- Parish meetings/programs:
 - Summer: monthly Book Group meeting.
 - Summer: along with parishioners Martha Walsh and Alice McLoughlin, have been working on organizing some of the many parish pictures/articles that have accumulated over the years.
 - Student registration and enthusiasm has been noticeably increased, with students driving all aspects of the Sunday 5 pm service.
- Religious education:
 - September: meetings with Rensselaer County Catechetical leaders, and have met with catechists in our local area to network on Generations of Faith programs.
 - GIFT theme for the parish this year will be “Prayer and Sacraments.”

Knights of Columbus Report (J. Grimaldi)

- September 9: first meeting; looking at prospective interactions with students at SUNY-Albany and HVCC, in terms of having them join the RPI KOC Council.
- September 11: First Degree ceremony
- Upcoming plans:
 - Current: posters for KOC at C+CC and RPI Union; this year’s freshman class is very motivated and involved, above and beyond Catholic activities
 - Fall: repaint Hospitality House
 - Winter: over the counter medications for Joseph’s House
 - Easter: materials for men over at Joseph’s House

Newman Fellowship Report (F. Gallo):

- August 28: Activities Fair, with increased attendance
- September 7: first fellowship dinner and ice cream social (~ 25 in attendance), with greatly increased freshmen participation, with many coming from active Catholic backgrounds
- September 13: first retreat at the Priory of St Benedict in Chestertown (new record attendance of 21 students signed up)
- September 20: Joseph’s House service project, with particular concern about an overflow for this and other shelters in current economic difficult times. Downtown Troy parishes plan on housing overflow seekers, following volunteer training for support.

Parish Life Committee (J. Brennan via B. Williams):

- No update; meeting to be scheduled. Generally, plans for wide-audience events, e.g., classic movies.

New Business:

- Roof completed, windows next for refurbishing, with repointing of the building planned for 2009.
- In anticipation of the 40th anniversary of the C+CC, working on an application for the National Registry; John G. Waite Associates are consultants (<http://www.jgwaarchitects.com/building>)

The meeting concluded with prayer led by Mr. Grimaldi.

Submitted By: Wilson Crone