

## APRIL 2009 PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES

(4/22/09, 6:00-6:50 PM, C+CC Lounge)

<u>Present:</u>	Jim Brennan, Matthew Callaghan, Wilson Crone, Jacqueline Fable, Fran Hyde, Paul Kraus, Joe Grimaldi, Fr. Ed Kacerguis (Pastor), Marianne Monastero, Kelly Rigby, Marie Venaglia (Chaplain), Brenda Williams (Chair)
<u>Excused</u>	Harry Cooke, David Dziejewski

The meeting began with prayer led by Mr. Kraus.

### Chair Report:

- Approval of February 11, 2009 minutes with a minor correction. No March 2009 minutes were available as the Pastoral Council attended the Lenten Wednesday series. Mr. Crone will incorporate the February minutes and send them to Jill Wishon for posting on the C+ CC web site.

### Pastor's Report:

- Lenten Wednesdays speaker series, with high-profile speakers and increased attendance, particularly from outside parishes. To involve such speakers, planning must occur early, e.g., this year's slate was organized by September 2008, with honoraria and travel expenses.
- Holy Week went well, with increased attendance noted at services. One item of interest was that at the 5 PM Easter Sunday, approximately nine families were in attendance with their RPI students.
- Pastoral planning I. Many regular participants at Christ Sun of Justice celebrated Easter at other Troy parishes before they close as part of the "Called to be Church" process. The impact of the consolidation will be noted as part of annual renewal of registration in the fall.
- Pastoral planning II. Social justice and faith formation efforts are ongoing as parish linkages become more formalized. Christ Sun of Justice and Our Lady of Victory have been in discussion regarding Mass scheduling to ensure coverage of the two linked parishes.
- Pastoral planning III. Catholic schools in the Troy area, such as at Our Lady of Victory, are under enrollment and budget constraints.
- 4/23/09: Rensselaer Newman Foundation spring board meeting followed by Parish Appreciation Mass and dinner.
- 5/11/-5/14/09: Diocesan Spring Enrichment program ([http://www.rcda.org/Spring\\_Enrichment.html](http://www.rcda.org/Spring_Enrichment.html)); the parish will cover tuition costs for interested parishioners.
- 5/14/09: RPI Senior Mass.
- 5/23-5/24/09: switch to summer schedule, with 5:15 Saturday and 10:00 Sunday Masses.
- Ongoing: "stem cell controversy" on campus. Fr. Kacerguis commended the Knights of Columbus for researching the topic and efforts at RPI before joining a protest sponsored by a student.

### Chaplain's Report:

#### *Meetings and RPI Events:*

- 3/16/09: Diocesan in-service meeting at St. Mary's, Crescent.
- 3/24/09: Faculty-Staff Memorial Service.
- 4/7/09: Annual Health Day.
- 4/17/-4/18/09: Relay for Life; RPI raised over \$80,000 overall this year.
- April 2009: Spring Visiting Days.

Faith Formation:

- 3/29/09: completion of GIFT session, with the Rensselaer Newman Fellowship sponsoring their Labyrinth.
- Book group completion of homilies and liturgies from Pope Benedict XVI, shifting to Thomas Merton in May and Paul's Letter to the Romans in June (as an extension from the Lenten Wednesdays focus on Paul).
- Ongoing: meetings at the Diocesan Deanery meetings to implement "Called to be Church" plans.
- Ongoing: monthly meetings with other catechetical leaders in Rensselaer County.

Knights of Columbus Report (J. Grimaldi):

- 3/17/09: St. Patrick's Day dinner and gathering.
- 3/24/09: Rosary night (before Annunciation). Will anticipate doing a similar event for 9/11/09.
- Sixteen baskets of men's supplies made and delivered to Joseph's House.
- 4/28/09: next meeting and officer elections.
- October 2009: paint Hospitality House in conjunction with K of C alumni.
- Ongoing: reaching out to other area schools, e.g., SUNY Albany or HVCC.

Newman Fellowship Report (M. Monastero):

- 2/20-2/22/09: Spring retreat at Epworth Camp and Retreat Center (<http://www.epworthcenter.com/>).
- Spring events:
  - Thirty Hour Famine and collection with Alpha Omega
  - Praise Night with other Christian groups at RPI
  - Hosting senior retreat with students from Academy of Holy Names
  - Toiletries for Joseph's House
- 4/12/09: Easter coffee hour.
- Upcoming: picnic at Thatcher State Park; Senior Dinner.

Parish Life Committee (J. Brennan):

- No meeting since last Pastoral Council.

New Business:

- Of current third year members on the Council, Mr. Brennan indicated that he would retire. Current Council members were encouraged to recruit to fill the vacancy.
- Officers for next year: Ms. Williams (Chair), Mr. Grimaldi (Vice Chair), Mr. Crone (Secretary)
- Meetings for next year (generally, second Wednesday of the month, 6 pm in the C+CC Lounge):
  - September 9, 2009
  - October 14, 2009
  - November 11, 2009
  - December 9, 2009
  - February 10, 2010
  - (March meeting substituted by Lenten Wednesday)
  - April 14, 2010

The meeting concluded with prayer led by Mr. Kraus.

Submitted By: Wilson Crone