

# Meeting Minutes

## Saint Theresa Parish Pastoral Council

**April 16, 2008**

Official Minutes

Members Attending: Fr. Chuck Kieffer, Fr. Mathew Plathottam, Amy Caffarello, Becky Henry, Mary Muir, Rob Kubasko, Vincent Berkley, Neil Urban, Rick Raymond

Members absent: Kurt Hammond, Sandra Smith, Billie Young

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**7:05 Opening Prayer** offered by Fr. Chuck.

### **7:07 Approval of Previous Minutes**

Vincent made a motion, seconded by Rick, to approve the minutes of January 16, 2008. The minutes were unanimously approved.

### **7:08 Pastor's Report**

The Lenten season this year was wonderful and the community responded positively to the mission presented by Mgr. O'Grady. Those attending the mission gave generously to support the work of the Loreto sisters in Peru. We were fortunate to have Deacon Matt Lowry and Fr. Mike Straley assisting at the Triduum services.

Fr. Chuck is entering a very busy season for his duties as Dean of Central Phoenix. He will participate in 15 confirmation services and start his annual visits to the 19 parishes in the Deanery.

Fr. Chuck reviewed the recent appointment of Sr. Patricia Gehling, SSND, as principal of St. Theresa School starting July 1. Our community is fortunate to have someone with her experience and proven commitment to excellence in Catholic education.

The parish offertory program continues to grow. Monthly income has shown significant increases in January and February 2008. Budget planning includes stable office staffing and recruitment to fill vacancies in the school due to the retirement of four teachers. Summer facilities improvements will include the reflooring the sanctuary and installing security cameras on the perimeters of the parish campus. Phones will be installed in all school classrooms and parking lots will be resurfaced just after school closes for the summer. Auction and festival proceeds this year will be applied to remodeling the school courtyard, including making the stage ADA compliant. Extensive repairs to the school foundations will be done with funds from the Virginia Piper Foundation. The rectory garage recently had an epoxy floor installed through the generosity of a parishioner.

### **8:00 Old Business**

The Council feedback link on the parish web site has received almost 20 e-mails already. They represent a wide variety of issues which Amy is forwarding to appropriate staff. The new parishioner welcoming letter has been used effectively for all recent attendees at the registration meetings.

### **8:10 New Business**

Due to the requirements of the incorporation process, Fr. Chuck asked for an early decision on the Council president for next year. Vincent nominated Rick Raymond and all approved this appointment. Other officers will be determined at the May 28 meeting. Two new council members have been selected and will be invited to the May meeting. Both Amy and Rob will complete six years of service this year.

### **8:00 Open Discussion**

Neil was asked by several parishioners about liturgical changes to the Easter vigil which Fr. Chuck indicated were adjusted to be more in line with the church rites and the symbolism of the Light (fire) entering the church. Mary has been asked about the possibility of incorporating an evening daily mass once or twice a week. Vincent also remarked on the appeal of this time to young people and adults after work. Fr. Chuck will take this idea forward for further consideration.

Amy reminded us about the upcoming tea in support of Sr. Adele's efforts with the homeless. This year's tea is scheduled at Mt. Claret on May 7<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m.

Our final meeting, Wednesday, May 28, will be held at 6 p.m. at the home of Becky Henry, 2720 N. 60<sup>th</sup> Street. Directions will be e-mailed to all.

**8:15 Closing Prayer** offered by Rick.

### **Meeting Adjourned**

Respectfully submitted by Becky Henry, Secretary