

# Meeting Minutes

## Saint Theresa Parish Pastoral Council

**September 24, 2008**

### Official Minutes

Members Attending: Fr. Chuck Kieffer, Rick Raymond, Becky Henry, Billie Young, Vincent Berkley, Gina Anthony, Lisa Beggs

Members absent: Kurt Hammond, Mary Muir, Michael Harris, Neil Urban

---

#### **7:10 Welcome and Opening Prayer (Rick)**

#### **7:15 New Member Introductions**

Council members introduced themselves to our new members. Gina and Lisa shared information about their service and their families. Fr. Chuck added his welcome and said what a privilege it is to work with parishioners who give so much so eagerly to the enhancement of our parish community.

#### **7:25 Approval of Previous Minutes**

Vince made a motion, seconded by Billie, to approve the minutes of May 28, 2008. The minutes were unanimously approved with one change.

#### **7:30 Pastor's Report**

Fr. Chuck reviewed recent staff changes including the addition of Fr. Frank Fernandez as a second Associate Pastor and Sr. Patricia Gehling as School Principal. The school is off to a wonderful start under Sr. Patricia's strong leadership based on over 32 years of school experience. Enrolment stands at over 580 children with lots of new families along with renewed energy and enthusiasm!

This week, as a result of the parish restructuring process, Fr. Chuck, Rick (as Pastoral Council President) and Andy Yahraus (as Chair of the Parish Finance Council) were invested as officers (along with Bishop Olmsted and Fr. Fred Adamson) of the Corporate Board of Directors of "St. Theresa Roman Catholic Parish Phoenix" and held their first official meeting of the corporation at the Diocesan Pastoral Center.

The stone work on the floor of the sanctuary and the walls of the baptistry and sanctuary is completed. The wall behind the choir area is in process. Fr. Chuck reported on the bequest which funded this work and the hope that more of these funds can be used to do the aisles of the church next summer. It is possible that funds generated from the sale of a church property in Pinedale will enable us to fund the replacement of the church pews at a future date.

This summer weekday 6:30 mass was celebrated in the convent chapel. The regular attendees were happy with the smaller space and the greater sense of community this gave the daily masses. The plan is to return there again next summer.

Fr. Chuck shared details of the completion of the final phase of our **Vision 2000** projects. Planning committees have been formed and Judy Setzkorn has been hired as Project Manager to oversee the building of a new Early Childhood Center to house

our pre-K, Kindergarten and after school programs. Target completion date is August 2010.

#### **8:15 Old Business**

We discussed the web site comment form. Rick will follow up to ensure that he receives these items. Becky asked about the Liturgy Committee response to the idea of an evening mass. This is currently on hold due to scheduling issues. Since each week often brings additional masses with funerals and the school, it is important that priests not be scheduled for more masses than can be accommodated within church guidelines. Three priests are available only on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays – 9 months of the year. Fr. Chuck also said we fill a wider community service by having a 6:30 a.m. daily mass (not offered by many other parishes) and we often see parishioners from many other areas at this mass. Other morning Masses and evening Masses are readily available in neighboring parishes.

#### **8:30 New Business**

For the present Becky will continue to wear two officer hats: vice-president and secretary. Rick proposed a shift of our meeting day to Monday and all in attendance agreed to this change. Rick will schedule upcoming meetings as soon as possible.

Council goals: Rick shared his ideas for the year ahead and his wish that our council be more visible in the parish community. He would like to see us take a proactive role as a conduit for ideas and suggestions from the parishioners to the pastor. A general discussion followed with lots of ideas: have a "Ministry Spotlight" at masses on an upcoming weekend; invite parishioners to open forums; activate the pastoral council voice mail box; assign members to newly registered parishioners for follow-up similar to the mentoring program at the school; encourage members to wear nametags to mass and greet the community before and after mass.

#### **8:50 Open Discussion**

Becky indicated that we are still in need of two additional members to meet our total of 12. She will cheerfully accept suggestions from all. Becky also shared the date of the next Parish Welcoming & Registration: October 12 after the 11 a.m. mass.

#### **8:55 Closing Prayer (Fr. Chuck)**

Respectfully submitted by Becky Henry, Secretary