

## Minutes of 1/25/11 Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

Parish Mission Statement: The mission of the parish community of St. Ambrose is to grow in faith and spirituality as we seek to proclaim and live the gospel through our liturgy, prayer and charitable works for all God's people.

Present: Fr. Charles Currie, Fr. Don Bourgeois, Barbara Kane, Dc. Tom Picciano, Andy Gresko, Patti Sergent, Joey Singleton, Jim Spak, Sheila Sweeney, Mary Anne Bass, Paul Yusko, and Jerry Wagner

Excused: Francine Butler-Groat, Dick Paden, Ann Ros, Gary Leighton

An opening prayer was offered.

The prior meeting's minutes were reviewed and accepted.

Welcome and Comments by Fr. Currie:

The sacramental life of the parish is good. Note the following as evidence: 12 youngsters experiencing First Reconciliation; the successful and uplifting Christmas Season just concluded; the "Immersed In Christ" spiritual program which ran during the Advent and Christmas seasons (more on this below); the recent Blessed Marianne Cope events; and participation of parish youth in the recent Right-to-Life events convened in Washington DC.

Election of Officers: President (Chair), Vice President (Vice Chair), Secretary

- Patti Sergent was elected President and accepted same position
- Jerome Wagner was elected Vice President and accepted same position
- Ann Ros was appointed Secretary (in absentia)

Patti led the meeting subsequent to her election.

### A. Pastoral Agenda:

1. Sunday Feb 6<sup>th</sup> – Souper Bowl of Caring: announced; please support.
2. Parish Pastoral Council Minutes are now posted on the web site (<http://st-ambroseparish.org/ministryschedule.html#pastoral>). The website is well-frequented.
3. Pastoral Ministry Update: Deacon Tom presented comments and a request. Poinsettias from the St. Ambrose Feast Day dinner were distributed to homebound parishioners; Christmas cards were also sent to these. Additional volunteers have been recruited to help with visitations. The Request: It is imperative that the parish office be advised when parishioners enter local hospitals or nursing homes, so that visitations can be performed. It was suggested that notices to this effect be periodically run inside the bulletin (supplementing the notice on the cover).

### B. Parish Life Agenda:

1. Report on the Advent Program "Immersed in Christ": About 18 persons signed up, with 14 participating. Many time slots were offered for the meetings, plus a web-based format. Some participants commented that the material was overwhelming (time investment, etc.). Nonetheless, participants appreciated the offering and benefited from it; indeed, the program as transformative for at least one participant. The parish office is open to suggestions on such programs for the future. Paul mentioned the Creighton University Online Ministries website and its reflection, education, and retreat materials. Barbara commented that this site is linked to the parish website ("Meditations and Reflections", under "Links"; see, for example, <http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/daily.html>).
2. Hope Appeal is geared up for the Spring Drive: Kicking off May 14-15. The parish overachieved its assessment in 2010.

### C. Other Items:

1. Quarterly coffee hour at all Masses: Scheduled for January 29-30. Patti accepted the challenge to oversee the effort. Plans were made during the meeting.
2. Contact list for Pastoral Council members was distributed. This included email ids and home phone numbers.
3. Interaction with those seeking monetary donations on-premises: The giving of monetary donations is discouraged; direct these to services in the parish office or Mother Theresa's Cupboard.
4. Advent Wreath-Making Event: Patti noted that some parishioners had commented on the absence of the event in 2010 – i.e., they would have liked to attend.

Next Meeting: Tuesday February 15, 2011

A closing prayer was offered.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jerome Wagner