

St. Ambrose Pastoral Council Meeting - Minutes

February 16, 2010

Attending: Fr. Currie, Fr. Bourgeois, Barb Kane, John Bombaski (trustee), Fran Solo (chair), Joey Singleton, Mike Brunner, Jerry Wagner, Kathy Mastrogiacomio, Paul Yusko, Suzanne Reardon (Diocesan Pastoral Council)

Excused: Larry Sherling

Absent: Patti Sergent

Opening Prayer @ 7:10 PM

Review and Accept last meeting minutes: motion by Joey S., second by Mike B., unanimous approval.

Discussion of Items # 2 and #3 from “Vibrant Parish” list:

#2 liturgy inspires active participation and offers an experience of God) Joey reports positive response to celebration of Mass during her selling carnations at end of Mass last week. Discussion on sermons - length, depth, conciseness, appropriateness to our current life. Efforts are made to be involving, relative to our life, not a lecture, precise.

#3 (parishioners recognize their parish mission) Suggestion to recite our parish mission before or after Mass monthly. Comments on positive message in homilies that we need to live our parish mission; we have generous donations to special needs in parish - giving tree/ Haiti/ soup kitchen/ etc.

Upcoming liturgies/ devotions:

1/22/10 was Day of Prayer for Life- the Contemplative Rosary was sung. Looking for ideas for next year.

Beginning Ash Wednesday - during Lent there will be a 5:15 mass on Wednesdays

Diocesan Pastoral Council update: Suzanne Reardon reported the focus of the DPC is evangelization - she passed out copies of notes with various parishes Best Practices for evangelization- we at St. Ambrose have done some of them already. discussion on trying another Renew program; Parish mission sometime in the fall; celebration of baptisms and anniversaries of baptisms; need to check parish census vs. actual attendance. ACTION ITEM - for our next meeting 3/16- bring suggestions for a plan that Suzanne can bring to the next DPC meeting 3/20.

Parish Life Agenda:

1) Membership of Pastoral Council - welcome to Paul Yusko. Still have a need for 6 more. Suggestion for asking Confirmation candidates if they are interested in becoming Youth Representative on the Pastoral Council.

2) Altar servers meeting was held 2/7- we have sign ups of 3 new children and 3 adult servers. Please continue to make an effort to encourage and thank servers and their parents.

- 3) Eucharistic ministers meetings went well - we have 4 new ministers signed up.
- 4) Ignite 2010 Catholic Men's Conference - 2/27/10 in Syracuse - Fran Solo and Mike Brunner spoke at masses 1/23-24. Several men have signed up and some are planning to drive up together. Fran will contact diocese captain and get list of other men who may want to carpool.
- 5) The Ambrosian Café is off to a good start. Next luncheon is 2/23 with a Valentine's theme.
- 6) Africa update - Fr. Charles Opondo-Owora will come and speak to us with pictures of new construction of larger building - walls are up and working on roof.

New Items:

- 1) Welcome breakfast - Pastoral council will serve breakfast to all new parishioners 1-2 weeks after Easter.
- 2) Quarterly coffee hours - after all masses - Divine Mercy Sunday falls on 4/11/10 - Jerry to organize helpers with assistance staffing from Fran, Suzanne, and Mike Moore specifics to follow.

Next meeting topics: discuss "Vibrant Parish" List #4 + #7

Closing Prayer @ 8:32 p.m.

Next Meeting Dates: 3/16/10, 4/20/10, 5/18/10, 6/15/10

Submitted by Mike Brunner