

**Minutes of St. Rose Parish Pastoral Council Meeting  
December 9, 2008**

**Members Present:**

Fr. Denis O’Sullivan, Darin Schettler, Patrick Perlas, Rich Emig, Edward Montenegro, Tony DiColen, Teresa Vassallo, Upi Struzak, Len Marabella (DPC Rep.), Peter Leveque (Finance Council and Maintenance Committee Rep.)

**Opening Prayer:**

Fr. Denis led the opening prayer.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Minutes from the September 30, 2008 Parish Pastoral Council meeting approved as written.

**Public Comments:**

No members of the public present.

**Welcome and Introduction of New Council Members:**

New council members Upi Struzak, Patrick Perlas, and Edward Montenegro were welcomed to the Parish Pastoral Council, with their 3-year term commencing this meeting.

The outgoing members are Peter Leveque and Betty Wychocki.

A new Parish Council roster will be sent to all members.

The Parish Council Purpose and Organizational Structure document was reviewed for the benefit of the new Council members.

**Chairperson-Elect for Next Year:**

Upon discussion, it was decided to wait until the March, 2009 Parish Council meeting to choose a chairperson-elect, so the new Council members would have time to become familiar with the function of the Council.

**Set Dates for Bimonthly Meetings, January Retreat, and Annual Town Hall Meetings:**

The bimonthly meetings will continue to be the last Tuesdays of the months.

The Parish Council meeting dates are: January 27, March 31, May 26, July 28, September 29, and December 1, 2009. Meeting times are 7-9 p.m.

The Parish Council retreat will be on Saturday, January 17, 2009 from 9-Noon. The Council will begin with Mass at 8 a.m. in the Chapel. At the retreat the Council will be goal-setting for the upcoming year, as well as discussing the format, frequency and date(s) for upcoming town hall meetings and ministry fairs.

### **Reports:**

#### **Pastor:**

Fr. Denis reported on a new adult education program in lieu of Generations of Faith, which was not well attended. A meeting with Fr. Denis, Peter Leveque, Ann McGee, Matt Conley, Gloria Retamoza, and Agnes Gerrard resulted in retaining Sr. Eloise Rosenblatt to speak on the life, writings, and teachings of St. Paul on Sunday, January 18, 2009 at 9 a.m. in the Parish Center. If well attended, Sr. Eloise may be invited back. Other topics of interest (medical, ethical, aging, end-of-life issues) may be chosen, and topics will remain spiritual in nature.

Fr. Denis also reported the Christmas schedule will be mailed out December 10<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Hispanic:**

No Hispanic representative present to give report.

#### **DPC:**

Len reported on two activities:

- Shortage of Priests
  - A proposal is being finalized for presentation to the Executive Council of the DPC and the Bishop in February. The proposal will recommend lay positions comprised of Deacons/Nuns to assist parishes on an as-needed basis at parishes in the diocese. Len's task force will be contacting pastors for feedback in January, prior to presentation to the Bishop. A funding source for the program has yet to be identified.
- Communications within the Diocese
  - Improved communications beyond the North Coast Catholic is being explored, possibly moving towards a web-based format.

The next DPC meeting will be held at St. Rose Parish on Saturday, January 24 from 9-Noon, and is open to the public.

#### **Parish Finance Council:**

Peter reported on the financial status update in the bulletin, and the subsequent finance meeting after mass. Believe there was no public attendance at the meeting because the insert in the bulletin and the meeting were on the same day. The insert will be posted in the bulletin the week prior to the meeting next time.

The finance council is considering replacing the existing heater in the church with a heater/air conditioner unit. Funding in the amount of \$130,000 is available for the project and quotes are being obtained, to be evaluated by an engineer for quality and cost/benefit purposes.

St. Rose School requested a \$50,000 4-year no interest loan to help with increased cost of the new preschool. Repayment will be subtracted from annual subsidy if school can't make repayment schedule.

Consideration is being given to bringing back the original baptistery and a former altar for the sanctuary, appropriately utilizing funds previously donated by three sisters.

A mural in the circle by the Jesus statue depicting "We are the hands of Christ" is in the process of being made and will be completed by Christmas.

There was a theft of several items in the church recently, including Our Lady of Guadalupe picture and two banners.

### **Parish Maintenance Projects:**

Peter reported that lighting in the parking lot is being repaired and will be complete by Christmas, and the Chapel roof has been replaced by Bob Geist.

Also, a utilities study for energy efficiency purposes is being conducted by a committee consisting of Peter Leveque, Michael LeMark (and others), and likely will result in recommendations for equipment upgrades and operational changes.

### **Old Business:**

### **Parish Outreach for February 15, 2009:**

Council members should come to the January 27<sup>th</sup> Parish Council meeting with charities in mind for the February parish outreach program.

### **October Town Hall meeting and Ministry Fair:**

The list of items brought up at the October 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> town hall meetings was distributed to all Council members. The frequency and date for the next town hall meeting will be discussed at the January retreat. The ministry fair resulted in three people applying for

the Parish Council, as well as signups for the choir and ushers. The Council will select a date for a future ministry fair at the January retreat.

**Parish Financial Report in November:**

It was discussed the financial report should be presented to parishioners closer to the beginning of the fiscal year (July) in hopes of better attendance.

**New Business:**

**Red Cross use of Parish Hall as Emergency Shelter:**

Council agreed they did not see a need to designate the parish hall as an emergency shelter due to the central location in downtown Santa Rosa, where other facilities are available, such as Santa Rosa High School, Santa Rosa Junior College, City of Santa Rosa, etc. The Council agreed the parish hall would be available if absolutely necessary in time of catastrophic emergency.

**Other Business:**

Upi spoke of making ad space on the parish website available through links for contractors and businesses, which may result in revenue for the parish. She also mentioned making the website bilingual, and will look into both these items. Both items will be agendized under new business for the January 27 Parish Council meeting.

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:45 p.m.**

**The retreat is scheduled for January 17, 2009: Parish Pastoral Council Retreat, 9 a.m. to Noon. Mass at 8 a.m. in chapel prior to the retreat.**

**Next regularly scheduled Parish Pastoral Council meeting will be on Tuesday, January 27, 2009 from 7-9 p.m.**