

**MINUTES FOR THE ST. JEROME PASTORAL COUNCIL  
MEETING OF DECEMBER 13, 2004**

**In attendance:** Father David Blanchfield, Nancy Sokolowsky, Ronalee Grant, Dan Loch, Woody Wood, Bob Olson, Kathy Coyne, Bob Desimone, Tony Petraia, Judi Dennehy, Erin Halsey, Pat Hauptman, and Fred Bonilla.

Judi Dennehy opened the meeting with a moment of prayer and reflection.

The minutes of the meeting of November 8, 2004 were seconded and accepted.

**Pastor's Report --** Father Dave reported that he has written the Bishop's office in regards to the new building project with no reply. We have received a new goal for the Bishop's Appeal for 2005; There has been a 10% increase and our new goal now is \$63,000.

**Photo Directory --** Bob Desimone reported that 80 families have responded in one way or another to have their photos in the church photo directory. This initial response is below our initial expectations, but that may be due to other activities taking place and the Christmas holidays coming up. We may extend our deadline to after the first week of January to set up appointments for photo sessions.

**Council Brainstorming Session --** The balance of the meeting was devoted to the topic of "**How can we make a good church great?**" The council was asked by Father Dave to make suggestions on how we can improve our church. Among our findings:

1. A greater connection to Julie Coyne's ministry in Guatemala. A motion was made, seconded and carried that allowed Julie Coyne to be recognized as a missionary member of the St. Jerome staff, with a monthly stipend and other privileges. A further suggestion was made that the church in Guatemala be recognized as a sister church to St. Jerome and that a possible ministry trip to Guatemala be considered with five or six parishioners in a learning and fact finding capacity.
2. A linking up of the church with one or two outside charities or ministries that would allow members of the church to participate with others outside the church for a worthy cause. Among the charities mentioned were Americares/Homefront, The American Heart Association and Relay for Life.
3. A need to look within existing ministries for those that would be interested and called for a greater leadership role in the future.

This will be an ongoing discussion within the council for the balance of the year.

Father Dave led in a closing prayer. The next council meeting was scheduled for Monday, January 17, 2005 at 7:30 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Fred Bonilla, Parish Council Secretary  
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