

Minutes of the St. Jerome Pastoral Council Meeting of 11/14/05

In Attendance: Father David Blanchfield, Bob Olson, Dan Loch, Erin Halsey, Anne Groener, Ronalee Grant, Pat Hauptman, Claire Budnik, Dean Finch, Bramwell Wood, Tony Petraia, John Wagner, Judi Dennehy and Kathy Coyne.

Judi led the council in prayer and reflection in the youth room before convening in the parish hall. Minutes from the 9/26/05 meeting were read and accepted.

Pastor's Report

Church Roof: Work on the roof is near completion. An electrician is scheduled to confirm that the deicing system and lightening rods are still in working order.

Social Concerns Committee: Thanksgiving and Christmas liturgies and the Giving Tree project are well into the planning stages.

Generations of Faith: Before turning the floor over to Kathy Coyne, Father Dave commented that GOF evaluations were overall very positive and as a parish, we will continue to implement GOF as an enhancement to building a better parish, keeping future events on a simpler scale. The one downside was the loss of revenue in the two weekly collections. Kathy reported that by and large, the highlights of both sessions were generations talking together and meeting new people. Recommendations for improvement include more hands on activities and keeping the small groups integrated throughout the entire event. Kathy suggested that our next event tie the justice theme into acts of charity during the Lenten season. After some discussion, the council agreed this might best be accomplished in four or five mini gatherings held in our parish hall. Suggestions include an early Friday night supper or a Saturday breakfast followed by a simple prayer service during the first week of Lent. Planning for this event will begin shortly after the New Year.

Parish Fundraising: Cuneen Parish Fundraising mailed out letters to approximately 500 parish families who do not have a documented contribution record. Of the 100 families responding, 39 families have pledged monthly contributions to the parish totaling \$1400. Father Dave plans to follow up with these families with a personal letter of thanks.

Parish Directory: This project is finally near completion. There was some debate about posting the directory on our website, but the council quickly decided against pursuing since obtaining permission from all participants would be a daunting task. Erin Halsey said that the printing cost for the 36 page directory will be \$9.52 each for an order of 400 or more copies.

Old and New Business: None

Next meeting will be held on December 12. Father David closed the meeting with prayer. Council adjourned at 8:57 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Claire Budnik