



Minutes of the February 1, 2009
Meeting of the St. Tom's Parish Pastoral Council

Meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm by Jennifer Kerr

Opening Prayer:
Sean Sullivan

Attendance:

Candy Silver, Fr. Dan Davis, Valerie Beyrouy, Keith Woeste, Fr. Tom Poulsen, Jennifer Kerr, Sean Sullivan, Fr. Patrick Baikauskas, Fr. George Reynolds, Jacki Sorensen, David Violi, Jacob George, Loraine Rund, Allie Jeffs, ~~Kristin Malavenda~~ and Lynn Johal, Timothy Zaspal, and Lori Muhlenkamp. *Jennifer Jacobi*

Ted Arthur for Eileen Arthur
Charles Stewart for Zenephia Evans
Joe Rund for ~~Jennifer Jacobi~~

Not Present:

Eileen Arthur, Zenephia Evans, and Jennifer Jacobi

Minutes of January 25, 2009 meeting were approved.

Update from Candy Silver:

- Lack of tithing
 - 840 resident parishioners are listed with St. Tom's
 - 10% have given over 40% for the year
 - 321 families have made no contributions
 - 519 families have given \$1 or more to something
 - CCD families response to 'Fruitful Harvest' is < 50%, a letter will go out to families of CCD
- Discussion on tithing at St Toms
 - Why we tithe, how do we reach people?
- Father Dan will check with the Diocese to see what financial impact we will have if there is a decrease in our parish numbers
- Candy will bring to discuss next meeting "Why Catholics Don't Give"

Social Justice:

Lynn Johal gave an update on different ways to get involved.

-Haiti Wine and Cheese Party

Friday Feb 13 from 7:00-9:30

Tickets can be purchased at the ST. Tom's office or from members of the Haiti

Accept the Challenge!!

Join Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish in the

“Un-lunch” Hour

the week of October 26

Could you perform one simple act of solidarity with those who are hungry?



I was hungry and you gave me food.

(Mt 25:35)

Blest are you who are now hungry, for you will be satisfied.

(Luke 6:21)

For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be.

(Luke 12:34)

Here are some ways to participate:

- Give up lunch one day this week **OR**
- As a family, choose to sacrifice one food item—a sweet treat at lunch, a between-meal snack, or an evening dessert **OR**
- Give up a trip to the coffee shop

Instead

- Feel the pain of physical hunger or longing for just a few hours
- Pray for those who suffer hunger daily*
- Calculate the dollar amount of your sacrifice. Place this sacrificial offering in the attached brown envelope. Donations will be used to feed the hungry.**
- **OPTIONAL:** Write a sentence or two on the envelope about what you sacrificed and what you learned.
- Bring the envelope to the parish office or drop in collection basket Nov. 1-2

**100% of your donation will be used to feed the hungry in Hamilton County and Haiti.*

***Do not write a check or give a large amount. This is not a tithe, it is an alms—the smallest of gifts. It is to be made anonymously.*

What is

Solidarity?

Solidarity is the commitment to stand shoulder to shoulder with the needy of the world, speaking with a united voice in defense of the rights and needs of all, especially the poor, lowly and defenseless.

What is Almsgiving?

Any material favor prompted by charity and done to assist the needy in the name of Jesus is almsgiving.

Some Statistics on Hunger:

- In Hamilton County alone, approximately 36,000 children live in families on food stamps.
- An estimated 923 million people in the world go hungry.
- In developing countries nearly 16 million children die every year from preventable and treatable causes. 60% of these deaths are from hunger and malnutrition.
- In the U.S.. 11.7 million children live in households where people have to skip meals or eat less to make ends meet. One in ten households in the U.S. are living with hunger or are at risk of hunger.