



**Minutes for the St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Pastoral Council
Sunday, May 3, 2009**

Opening Prayer – Eileen Arthur

Attendance –

Jennifer Kerr, Eileen Arthur, Valerie Beyrouthy, Kristin Malavenda, Lorraine Rund, Keith Woeste, Allie Jeffs, David Violi, Jennifer Jacobi, Fr. Patrick, Fr. Tom and Lynn Johal

Absent – Zenephia Evans (Joe Rund attended in her place), Sean Sullivan, Tim Zaspal, Jacki Sorensen, Lori Muhlenkamp, Jacob George, Fr. Dan, Fr. George

Opening Remarks -

Minutes from the April 5, 2009 meeting were approved.

Valerie informed PPC that she would be moving this summer and would not be able to serve on PPC through the remainder of her term or as secretary. Members of PPC recommended that Sean Sullivan serve as secretary.

Update from Development (Candy Silver)

Candy provided a brief update regarding the status the Fruitful Harvest Campaign and the Capital Campaign efforts. Donations are continuing to be received from the parish toward the capital campaign while our commitment to the diocese for Fruitful Harvest is continuing to be paid.

Update from Social Concerns (Lynn Johal)

Lynn provided an extensive update on the many efforts on going at St. Tom's and in the community regarding social concerns.

Community Garden – Members of St. Tom's began a community garden at Purdue occupying 65x25 ft of ground intended to grow vegetables that would be shared with LUM and St. John's. The garden has drawn the attention of many different age groups and members of the parish.

Lynn also shared that through our monthly Food Drive (first Sunday of each month) we have been able to support St. John's with our donations.

Lynn handed out a draft copy of the 2009-2010 Social Concerns Brochure – following a brief discussion, it was suggested that the handout should be placed on St. Tom's website, incorporated into the parish's handbook and provided to incoming Purdue students that visit the church during the summer.

Lynn informed PPC that new programs would be launched during the school year, including “J-walking” for older teens and “Bread for the World”. The local chapter at St. Tom’s of Family Promise Program is currently being coordinated by Becky Dick. At this time, St. Tom’s has been able to host 2 families. The feedback provided has been positive and the families appreciated the privacy they were provided in the space at St. Tom’s. It was suggested that the parish and Purdue students be made aware of when the families are arriving so more parishioners and Purdue students could participate in assisting the families through the week. We will be expecting to see new families the week of July 12 and October 11.

Lynn has for input and suggestions on how we might be able to incorporate social teachings and concerns further into the religious education program at St. Tom’s. She shared with PPC that for 2009, \$1700.00 had been raised through the Rice Bowl Program compared to \$250.00 raised in 2008.

Update from Fr. Patrick

Fr. Patrick shared that he would be traveling to Bolivia beginning on May 16 for 8 days with a group of Purdue students for a mission trip. At that time, efforts were still underway to find financial support for the trip. Fr. Patrick agreed to share his experiences with PPC during the next meeting.

Fr. Patrick further shared about the success during the spring semester of the Campus Renew Program. Currently there are 7 groups of Purdue students throughout various dorms with the goal of having 12 groups in the dorms.

Fr. Patrick noted that the evening masses (Mon, Tue and Wed) would be discontinued during the summer months but would be initiated once the school year started.

It was shared that we would be losing Fr. George prior to the end of 2009 while a new student, Brother Nicholas would be joining later in the summer (end of August) for the school year.

Closing Prayer

Next Meeting: Sunday, August 30, 2009