

*"The Mission of St. Augustine Church is to be a Parish Family Inspired By The Love of Jesus Christ, Celebrating the Goodness of Life, Bringing the Good News and Ministering to the Needs of All."*

**Meetings: 3/27/10 6/12/10 10/30/10 1/15/11**

## **ST. AUGUSTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

### **Parish Pastoral Council**

***Meeting Minutes  
October 30, 2010***



### **Attending Members:**

Jose Calderon  
Sandy Corrigan  
Daniel DuPont  
Rolando Molina

Alan Ontiveros  
Ann Popik  
Fidel Rubio

Msgr. Michael Schmied  
Alberto Torres  
Liz Welchons

### **Absent Members:**

Eileen Brown; Oscar Cordova; Al Hallatt; Rex Hartley; Susan Hartley; Pamela Rocca; and, Brandon Tomnay

### **Prayer and Reflection**

- Morning refreshments were provided by Alan Ontiveros and Alberto Torres, and the assembling group thoroughly enjoyed the selections, and the overall hospitality. Sandy Corrigan, Chair, then called the meeting to order.
- The Opening Prayer, "*Empowering Litany of Mary*," was offered by Ann Popik, Vice Chair.

### **Previous Council Business Reviewed**

- The Minutes of the June 12, 2010, meeting were reviewed, and approved with correction.
- The Attendance Sheet was circulated for all to sign in.
- It was agreed that specific items and/or questions would be addressed at the time of individual reports to facilitate the continuity of thought.

### **Review of Committee and Liaison Reports**

- Reports by the Ministries' Coordinators, Committee Chairpersons, and Members-at-Large Liaison Representatives were presented:
  - Alan Ontiveros and Liz Welchons delivered the ***Parish Pastoral Council Member Discernment Committee Report***:
    - The invitations were mailed to the nominees in a timely manner.
    - Three persons responded and accepted the nomination and affirmed that

- they would attend the Discernment.
  - The Discernment will be conducted on November 9, 2010, at 7:00 P.M., in Room 18/19.
  - It was previously determined that five (5) new members would be added to replace five (5) retiring members.
- Fidel Rubio and Jose Calderon presented the **“Hispanic Committee” Report**
  - New Members of St. Augustine Church have been registered monthly.
  - Mother’s Day and Father’s Day Celebrations were well attended and appreciated.
  - Many participated in the success of the St. Augustine Feast Day Celebration and Picnic.
  - Two hour spiritual formation programs continue to be held on the first Saturday of each month. Separate activities for younger children are provided while the adults participate in the programs.
  - The Coordinators of Ministries within the parish have completed a series of Leadership Training Workshops presented by the Hispanic Apostolate, Catholic Diocese of Richmond. The final session will be a Retreat in December, 2010.
  - The Hispanic Heritage Month activities that were presented received many positive comments. Activities included: Children’s procession at Mass in traditional costumes that depicted their cultural heritage; Procession of the Virgins, Patronesses of the countries of the American continents; Traditional Crafts exhibit; and the Baile de Gala Celebration on October 9<sup>th</sup>, which was a financial success.
  - The first St. Augustine Grand Festival was held on October 9, 2010. This successful one day event was held to raise money for the *Renaissance Revisited* Building Fund. The Committee hopes to make this an annual event.
  - Each Friday evening, during the month of October, many gathered to pray the Rosary. Some members attended the Public Square Rosary Rally on October 16, 2010, on the grounds of St. Augustine Church. Joyful Mysteries alternating English and Spanish languages were recited, and led by Carol Gibson and Rosario Villa, respectively.
  - As Advent and Christmas approach, plans to have Posadas and a Missionary are underway. Posadas will be at parishioners’ houses who have volunteered their homes for the special prayer time. The Missionary Advent will also be Advent prayers at the homes of parishioners who volunteer their hospitality.
  - A very special celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas, will take place at Mass on December 12, 2010.
- In her absence, Eileen Brown’s written **Christian Formation Committee Report** was reviewed:
  - **R.I.C.A. News:** Currently, six already baptized candidates, and one unbaptized, are discerning becoming Catholic. Four have received Rite of Welcome, and Rite of Call to Continuing Conversion.
  - Rite of Full Reception into the Catechumenate will take place at the 5:30 P.M. Mass on November 20, 2010. Lawrence Laster, Darren Van Guilder, and Sara Owens will enter into the Catholic Church. A small reception will follow in the Commons. Everyone is asked to, please, support and celebrate with

our newest Catholics.

- **First Reconciliation and Eucharist:** Parents of children preparing for Reconciliation and Eucharist continue attending parent sessions in the year-round model.
  - > One child coming to the table at 5:30 P.M. Mass, on Saturday, November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2010;
  - > Two siblings coming to the table at the 6:00 P.M. Mass, on the first Sunday in November.
  - > Three children have completed their preparation, and have Celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
  - > Three of our youth preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation are, also, preparing to receive their Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist.
  - > Other families are preparing for the Sacraments – others have signed up Late fall/winter sessions.
- **L.I.F.E. Living in Faith Everyday (Forming Households of Faith):** Recent Speakers: Jay Brown, Director of the Office of Justice spoke on Immigration; Jeff Caruso, Director of the Virginia Catholic Conference, spoke on Faithful Citizenship. These speakers followed the summer series, Truth Seekers. Father Kevin O'Brien spoke on the Book of Revelation, "Who was Mary Magdala?" and "What God is trying to tell us in Parables?"
  - > November - will bring us "Real Presence;"
  - > December - "The Liturgical Year;"
  - > January - speaker, Mark Hoggard will provide an overview of the Gospel Matthew.
  - > During the summer months, members of the LIFE Team spoke after weekend Masses, inviting parishioners to **Slice of Life** – adults can sign up for any given month and pay only \$5.00. This \$5.00 can be applied to the \$25 yearly fee, if they choose to register full time.
  - > Currently, over 200 adults are participating in the English and Spanish language sessions of L.I.F.E. - participating in systematic adult faith formation. Approximately 300 children attend L.I.F.E. each month.
  - > The Spanish speaking sessions of the program are closed again, with many on the Waiting List. We do not have enough room or volunteers to accommodate the numbers of parishioners interested in participating. The additional rooms in the new Pastoral Center should help; however, volunteers are desperately needed.
  - > The traditional **Children's Christmas Narration** still needs parents or others to help. Rehearsals will begin on the first Sunday in Advent.
  - > **Infant Baptism:** We continue to welcome new Catholics through Baptism.
  - > **Adult VBS (Adult Bible School):** Adults gathered for four nights in August for Adult VBS. The last night began with dinner, and all agreed that they would like more weeks like this for adult scripture study.... Enhanced!
  - > **Children's Liturgy of the Word:** We are looking for a new coordinator for this Ministry and we are always in need of additional volunteers. Current liturgists work in teams that are scheduled for one Sunday per

month at either the 9 or 11 A.M. Masses.

- > **Safe Environment:** All volunteers are being asked by the Diocese to update their background checks; a time consuming and expensive process. If you are one such volunteer, please turn the paperwork back into the Parish Office ASAP! Thanks.
- In his absence, Brandon Tomnay's written **Youth Council Report** was reviewed:
  - This quarter's accomplishments include:
    - > Regular Youth Group Meetings were held.
    - > Confirmation began with almost forty (40) individuals.
    - > Drive-in Movie in Goochland.
    - > Ashland Berry Farm Haunted Tour.
    - > Plans for next quarter are being formulated.
    - > The Youth Council would like for the Parish Pastoral Council to sponsor (fund) an event (details to be discussed).
- In Pam Rocca's absence (and a disabled computer), Alberto Torres offered the following comments regarding the **Justice and Faith Committee Report**:
  - Articles regarding immigration will continue in our Sunday Bulletins.
  - Care is given to issues ensuring individual rights and proper Legislation.
  - The Bread Ministry continues to help our parishioners.
  - The Food Pantry is very active, especially with regard to our current economic and financial conditions.
  - The Bread Ministry continues to help our parishioners.
  - The Food Pantry is very active, especially with regard to our current economic and financial conditions.
  - The Food Pantry group is looking forward to moving their food storage in the Bride's Room, off the Vestibule of the Church, to the former Rectory, now occupied by the Pastoral Staff. Instead of being referred to as "The Office," the Committee will refer to the building as an Outreach Center.
- In his absence, Al Hallatt's written **Worship Committee Report** was reviewed and discussed with Liz Welchons, Committee Liaison:
  - The **Nursery staffing** needs have been reassessed and a full time staff of two people has been established to accommodate the 11:00 A.M. Sunday Mass on a consistent and reliable basis.
  - **Holy Hour** continues on a monthly basis (third Tuesday) with limited attendance.
    - The **Liturgical Ministers Fall Retreat** was well attended with over 85 Ministers and guests. The Retreat included dinner and three very interesting speakers.
  - Tuesday morning **Bible Study** continues at 9:30 A.M.
  - There is a continuing need for Altar Servers for all English speaking Masses.
  - A **Pool Party** was held for Altar Servers.
  - Two Altar Servers have been trained.

- A **Self Assessment** was made by the Worship Committee to determine areas for improvement, and identifying what was successfully accomplished.
- Comments regarding the status of **Parish Life** were made by:
  - Alan Ontiveros, **Knights of Columbus**:
    - > On October 30<sup>th</sup>, the Knights of Columbus held a Prom for the Mentally Challenged at the Bishop Ireton Center. Two Hundred people were expected to attend.
    - > A Memorial Mass has been scheduled for November 7, 2010, for deceased Priests.
    - > An Oktoberfest Dinner Dance, with German food, will take place at the Ireton Center on November 11<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$20 per person.
    - > *Poor Box Breakfast* continues to be sponsored by the Knights of Columbus on the first Sunday of each month.
    - > The *Rosary Campaign* continues for the goal of one million rosaries to be prayed in one year.
    - > On November 20<sup>th</sup>, delicious Brunswick Stew will be on sale by the Knights for \$6.00 per quart, after the 5:30 P.M., and the Sunday Masses.
  - Sandy Corrigan, **Parish Pictorial Directory**:
    - > The scheduled Portrait sessions for the Parish Pictorial Directory have been completed. The Group pictures to be photographed by Cliff Cole should be completed within the next four to six weeks. The Layout Planning is in process. When completed, everything will be submitted to Olan Mills for final preparation of the Directory.
- Dan DuPont, **Buildings and Grounds/Safe Environment Committee**:
  - > A **Red Cross Emergency Shelter** exercise will be conducted at St. Augustine Church on November 13, 2010.
  - > Bi-lingual help is needed at the Registration.
  - > Volunteers need not be experienced in order to order. On-going training continues.
- Sandy Corrigan, **F.U.N. (Faith Uniting Neighbors)**:
  - > On Tuesday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, a **Special Floral Arranging Workshop** will be held in the Church Hall, with five professional florists to assist each participant in creating a table arrangement, door display, or wreath. The principal Instructor is our very own **Jane Hasenfus of "Love's in Bloom."** They will also have many beautiful completed arrangement designs with them as examples. All parishioners are welcome to this fun event! The fun will begin at 7:00 P.M.
  - > Our fun **Spanish Class** will be taught by Alberto Torres, beginning after the first of the new year.

## Working Lunch and Additional Discussion

- Lunch was provided, and discussion continued regarding agenda items.
- Monsignor Michael Schmied commented on the following:
  - The **Blessing of the Animals** was well attended and Deacon Eric Broughton

- conducted the Service.
- Copies of the **Budget and the Financial Statement** were distributed.
  - > Finance Committee Chairman, Kirk Orris, will speak at all Masses regarding the Budget
- The **Diocesan Appeal** collections from St. Augustine Church was \$19,200,
  - > which is 89% of the \$21,600 goal established by the Diocese for St. Augustine. Twenty percent will be returned to St. Augustine Church.
- Father Mike asked that a copy of the minutes be posted on the Church **Bulletin Board**.
- Father Mike, also, requested that the current **Five Year Plan** be reviewed by an appointed Committee and a new Plan be devised.
- The progress of the **Renaissance Revisited Pledge Campaign** was reviewed, as well as, the projected construction completion date for our new Pastoral Center. As the project is on schedule; thus, completion should occur between the middle to late December.
  - > An **Appreciation Luncheon** for electricians and dry wall workers will take place on November 19<sup>th</sup>. There was a previous Appreciation Luncheon for other workers on August 27<sup>th</sup>.
  - > The tentative date for **Blessing of the Pastoral Center** by Bishop DiLorenzo is the week of January 22, 2011. The Knights of Columbus will be requested to attend in full regalia for the Blessing and Dedication.
  - > The Pastoral Center will open the week of the 24<sup>th</sup> of January. An OPEN HOUSE is to be announced.
- Father Mike again suggested that the Anglo Youth Group attend a Hispanic Mass, and make an invitation for involvement with the Parish's Youth Group.
- The Council requested that a Mass be said for the three Benedictine Nuns that were involved in a fatal car accident (One nun perished, and two others were seriously injured).

## **Parish Pastoral Council Self- Assessment**

Prior to the meeting, Sandy had requested that Council members participate in a Parish Council Self-Assessment, and to reflect on the following categories in advance:

- A. Identify areas that the PPC has performed its responsibilities well;
- B. Identify areas for improvement or change;
- C. Other Comments

The results were to be reviewed and summarized, while maintaining the anonymity of participating members, and made available to the leadership team of the 2011 Parish Pastoral Council. As no responses were received, Sandy will provide a summary of her observations for the Team.

## **Parish Self- Assessment Report**

Council Members were asked to print the questionnaire that Father Mike received from the Diocese, review the document and bring it to the meeting. The questions were discussed by the group, and the completed form will be sent to the Diocese.

## **Parish Five Year Plan**

The current Five Year Plan that was prepared in 2003 was reviewed, and a new Five Year Plan Committee was appointed. The members, in alphabetical order are as follows: Dan DuPont, Sandy Corrigan, Rolando Molina, Alan Ontiveros, Fidel Rubio, Alberto Torres, and Liz Welchons. The Committee had its first meeting in the Chapel.

### **Closing Prayer and Reflection**

Father Mike led the Council in a Closing Prayer and Reflection.

**Respectfully submitted by,**

*Liz Welchons, substitute, and Sandy Corrigan, Chair,*

*for*

*Susan Hartley*

Parish Pastoral Council Secretary