

# **ST. JAMES PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES**

## **MARCH 9, 2009**

**Opening Prayer:** Phil Baumert

**Members Present:** Father Tom Albers, Dave McDonald, Mary George, Steve Wilson, Phil Baumert, Jim Thornton, Julia Alsobrook, Ann Tucker and Joe Ross

**Members Absent:** Cathy Teague, Lisa Richardson, Diane Dolak and Father Timothy Armbruster

**Guests Present:** Jim Newell and Chuck Koesterer

**Additions to the Agenda:** None

**Approval of Minutes:** Julia Alsobrook made a motion that the February 9, 2009 meeting minutes be approved and Steve Wilson seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously without change.

### **Old Business:**

- **HOPE Program Update:** Tom Pfeiffer distributed a chart showing sales so far this year. Profits are \$7,170.05 with an average of 125 families participating in the program. He said that Mary George presented the HOPE PowerPoint presentation to the Over 50 Group on February 18, 2009 and that it was well received.
- **Update on The Church Development Foundation efforts:** Jim Newell reported that he has provided a great deal of information to the team. They have conducted interviews and received responses to the survey they sent to all parishioners. The response rate is about 10 percent. The team will present its report and recommendations at a meeting on March 11, 2009 at 7:00 P.M. in the teacher's lounge. Members of the Pastoral Council, Stewardship Council and Financial Council are invited to attend.

**New Business:** None

### **Ministry Reports:**

- **Youth:** No Report
- **Activities:** Mary George reminded the council that parish clean up day is March 21. A notice will be placed in the bulletin. It was noted that the entrance sign on Stewart Road needs to be repaired and the "Faith Under Construction" sign needs to be taken down. Father Albers pointed out that

there is another sign near the entrance with a Scouting emblem on it that probably should be removed also. The next parish blood drive will be March 24.

- **Groups:** Ann Tucker reported that the Altar Society and Respect Life Ministry hosted Dr. John Morris on March 3. He gave a very informative presentation on "Stem Cells, Cloning and Human Dignity." Only about 34 people attended the presentation. The money that the Altar Society raised at its annual bingo fund raiser will be used to purchase new altar linens. Steve Wilson reported that one of the members of the Families of Faith Ministry is working to raise money to support a family that has a young son fighting leukemia.
- **Liturgy:** Phil Baumert told the council that Chris Alvey is in place as server coordinator. Musicians are now receiving communion at Mass ahead of everyone else and this seems to be working well. The condition of the cups used for the Precious Blood at Mass was discussed and a donation has been pledged to replace them. Also, new vestments will be purchased. The Liturgy Committee will meet again next week to discuss the remainder of Lent. Father Albers reviewed the Parish Mission/Retreat that will be conducted on March 15, 16, and 17. Information is in the bulletin. However, there will not be a session after the 6:00 P.M. Mass on March 15.
- **Education:** Julia Alsobrook reported that teacher conferences were held last week and that students are taking standardized tests this week. The diocese conducted a year-long study on Catholic schools last year and the initial rough-draft report has been released for review. The Mardi Gras supper was a great success with great attendance. Several people asked whether this would be held again next year. A first communion meeting was held tonight for people to sign up for their preferred Masses. Soup suppers continue through Lent.
- **Fund Raising:** Joe Ross clarified a request received last month from the Scouts. They usually conduct two breakfasts each year and that will continue. Nothing additional was requested.

**Pastor's Comments:** Father Albers said that he continues to be edified by the involvement of so many parishioners in parish programs. "We're a good parish."

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be on April 13, 2009. Diane Dolak will lead the prayers.

**Agenda Items for Next Meeting:**

- Follow up on The Church Development Foundation meeting and report
- Peru team report

**Closing Prayer:** Phil Baumert

Minutes respectfully submitted by Thomas J. Pfeiffer, Recording Secretary