

St. Clement Parish Council Meeting
October 13, 2008
Minutes

Present: Fr. Simpson, Fr. Ramil, John Huston, Kathy Moore, Craig Knapp, Peggy Myles, Julie Lepri, Ann Domenella, JPGallagher, Lizzy Hunt, Kim Dahlborn, Michael Zink, David Hoese, Kelley Thornton

Pastor's Report

- There will be a prayer service the night before the election, Monday, Nov. 3
- Fr. Reported on the conference of the National Catholic Stewardship Organization that he attended.
- Planned Offering Pledge letters will be mailed out soon.
- The annual report, which is almost finished, is showing a deficit of about \$6,000, or 5%.
- We would like to increase POP participation; the goal is 1,000 participants.

Parish Organization Plan (Craig Knapp)/ Parish Leadership Meeting

Fr. Simpson would like a better understanding of how the parish is organized: major/minor committees, who is involved, what does each group do? We need some kind of a map. Craig's committee presented an organizational chart showing all the groups and how they minister. How do all these groups fit into our parish Mission Statement? The Council discussed the agenda for the Parish Leadership Meeting November 10. Each group will give a one minute summary of who they are and what their goals are. We will then break into discussion groups. Each group will determine which two or three objectives are most important for St. Clement to carry on its mission for the next five years. The Committee will send out questionnaires and information requests the week before the meeting.

Strategic Planning (Ann Domenella)

The committee is working on defining the relationship between the parish and the school. From there, the question is – what data do we need in order to come up with a long term plan? (demographics, real estate trends, other schools in the area being built, etc.) After all the information is in, recommendations might be made and a process established for decision-making.

Religious Ed (David Hoese)

The program is still in transition. Teachers are still needed at many grade levels. There needs to be an active recruitment and a teacher-development program.

Stewardship (Jim Lentz) and **Finance** (Craig Knapp)

Collections are down 5%, but we are still in very good shape because of the conservative budgeting. Some budget reassessing will have to be done. Finance Comm is reviewing its by-laws and its budgeting process.

School Board (Julie Lepri)

A High School Information night was held. Nineteen families are benefiting from the Tuition Assistance Program this year. The St. Clement Parent Ass'n fundraising committee is asking parents to donate in order to bridge the gap between tuition and the actual cost of education a child at St. Clement. In response to a question, Julie explained

that the SCPA does fund-raising and community building activities. In response to another question, Julie informed us that there is a liaison from the SCPA to the School Board. She did not feel it was necessary to have a liaison from the Parish Council to the SCPA.

Ann Huston represented St. Clement at the Deanery meeting. We may need to consider having a liaison from the Parish Council on the Deanery board.

As the meeting ended, Kelley Thornton observed that the current economic downturn could affect many at St. Clement. How can we perhaps help families/parishioners in need? This may loom as a larger issue in the coming year.