

### ***Minutes of Parish Council Meeting on September 22, 2014***

Members of the Parish Council and Pastoral Team met at the Sacred Heart Parish Center at 7:00PM

Absent members – None = 100% attendance!

- Opening Prayer by Diane Walling
- Possible meeting date change in February as we'll as Seder Meal date in March, will review.
- Introduce new members to the Council: **Anne Coglianese and John McNarney**
- Terms of Office (blue) and Pastoral Council roster (salmon) distributed. **Kimberly's phone number needs to be changed = Fr. Tom**
- Minutes from last month meeting were considered "approved"
- Pastor's report and discussion:
  - Suggestion to continue small faith-sharing groups for Lent when **Arise** finishes in December, 2014-  
Want to encourage this in Lent, 2015, so that **Arise** momentum will not be lost. Comments from **Arise** participants from Michelle: people interested in using Sunday reading format. Look at outreach opportunities following weekly meetings (**Arise** does a good job at this) Interest in looking more at faith sharing based on Sunday readings in Lent format. **Pastoral Council endorsed Diocese of Victoria, Texas materials (six sessions, one/each week of Lent). Michelle and Deacon Bill will canvas the group leaders to see if they would be willing to continue in Lent, 2015 with materials based on the Lenten Sunday readings.**
  - **Review the six "missions" of the Council:** Suggested norms for parish pastoral council, abbreviated version. **Without the ministries of the laity, "the apostolate of the pastors will frequently be unable to obtain its full effect." Mission-Focused Pastoral Council is important.** Provide valuable guidance for Pastor in an advisory role. Help set parish direction, support policies of diocese. Article 3, publishing and **making available of minutes**, feel that it is important to publish minutes. Advertise in bulletin that minutes are on the Parish website. Fr. Tom believes we are currently performing many of the six missions, perhaps could do better with **evangelization**, the people that we do not see. Touch base with **Professor Tim O'Malley**, to see if he has ideas. Perhaps ask him to speak to the whole Parish? Spend some time on this area moving forward this year. Fr. Tom and Fr. Brad hoping to have little more presence in parish center for mission of education (REP on Sundays), whichever priest is not working 9:30 Mass will make effort to be present. United Religious Community (Ecumenism and Interfaith Relations) not as active as it was in the past, not as many opportunities here. Small faith communities have held together for over 2 ½ years, as many as seven small groups doing **Arise Together In Christ** these past 2 years. . Question on **follow up of new parishioners after initial welcoming meeting**; nobody currently doing this. **Diane and Kim willing to touch base with new parishioners**, a couple of weeks after their Welcome Meeting. Saturday afternoon 4 PM Mass has folks that are not in parish, look into ideas to get more information about SHP in front of them. Welcome new parishioners at Sunday Mass, announcing their presence, if possible. Possible to pursue SHP **Facebook** page, need to discuss content that could be put online, **Anne Coglianese is willing to look into this and organize it.** Many people love to see their pictures on Facebook.

- Review the "happenings" surrounding the dedication of the new organ. Went well, concert was well attended and catered reception was enjoyed. Mechanical organs require more maintenance, and can be expensive, organ considered a "gem."
- Around the Table reports
  - Pat Cahill – looking for volunteers for food deliveries, will email Fr. Tom.
  - Anne – spoke at 11 AM Mass to encourage people to joining **Arise**
  - Deacon Bill – JJ's concert went very well received, very high quality
  - Diane – Mass of Remembrance Thursday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, list of parishioners that have passed in last year and buried from SHP and will be mentioned at Mass. Open for all parishioners. Christ Renews his parish manuals donated to St Monica's.
  - Joan – URC - full report coming on bringing in youth.
  - Michelle – religious education, 10 teachers. Possibly more kindergartners coming in, young man confirmed October 24<sup>th</sup>. Pillars of catechism started. Acts of the Apostles group starting shortly. **Michelle will order Arise book on Tuesday, September 23.**
  - Tom – social justice, looking at putting together website highlighting ministries served. Minutes from last meeting made available to everyone, and handouts available on upcoming events. Possibility of talk on death penalty, check dates and see if there is an opening.
  - Paul - Epiphany breakfast – Mulligans and Paul Thornton taking this on. Paul Eddy will check on availability with catering. Looking at details, and preparation needed.
  - Fr. Brad – settling into parish.
  - Nan – Martha's Brothers and Sisters did a great job after Denise's funeral. Eileen Sweeney would like to be on list.
- Close the meeting with a prayer by Nan Tulchinsky
- Thanks to Kim Spence for tonight's snack.
- Opening prayer for October meeting is Joan Ioranger
- Closing prayer for October meeting is Deacon Bill Gallagher
- **Next meeting, Monday, October 20, 7 PM Parish Center**

**Jack O'Brien**