

**St. Bede Pastoral Council
Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2007**

Present: Fr. Abe, Fr. Rod, Greg Ballentine, Dave Clemens, Toni Collingwood, Noel Fort, Tina Straight, P.J. McQuade, Bill Theroux, Peg Crews, Cathy Fronheiser, Sally Minich, Sasha Diggs, Jeannie Trainum, Francis Capone, John McCormack.

Dave called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and Greg led the opening prayer. The agenda for the meeting is Attachment 1 found at the end of the minutes.

1. Approval of Minutes: The January 2007 minutes were approved.

2. Young Families: The Young Families Steering Committee, Lynn Williams, Susan Gebhardt, Heather Clemens, Ann Levins and Jean Marie Digges presented to the Council the Young Families Ministry Mission Statement (Attachment 2) and Budget Proposal (Attachment 3). Following the presentation by Lynn there discussion concerning some of the budget request. It was brought out that the pagers work only on the left side of the church and many times will only work 3 out of 4 times used. John said that he would look into possibly relocating the transmitters. Lynn said that were considering some fund raising event to provide funds for the Tot Lot. Father Abe indicated that once the large pile of dirt is removed, this area could be used as a picnic/play area that can be supplied with both water and electricity.

Father Abe again urged the Council to support his proposed Pastoral Outreach Ministry. He thought that the work done by the Young Families Ministry could be used as a guide in setting up the various elements that would encompass the Pastoral Outreach Ministry.

The Young Families Steering Committee is to be commended for their excellent presentation. Both the Mission Statement and Budget Proposal were not only well thought out, but were also very detailed, especially the Budget Proposal.

3. Joint Retreat - Review: The review of the Joint Retreat was tabled to the March PC meeting that will also be a Round Table meeting.

4. Budget Process: Peg reported that she has been involved in the budget process. She indicated that there is a lack of budget requests from the various ministries. She urged that the Council request the various ministries to define their mission from which they can develop their budget needs.

5. 2007's Major Goals: Bill presented a list of goals (Attachment 4) that should be considered by the PC for 2007. Some of these ideas were expressed during the February retreat. Subsequent discussion at this time and also during the **Pastor's Report** was centered on those topics that have been discussed during previous Council meetings.

6. Suggestion Box: Tina reported on suggestions made over the last six months. Most suggestions were concerned with: a) parking; b) need for a more upbeat tempo for the Life Teen Mass; and c) questions as to why pews at the rear of the church are roped off before Mass.

We closed with a prayer led by Toni.

The next meeting is March 28th at 7:00 in the Church Commons. It will be a joint PC and Round Table meeting. The meeting will be preceded by a Potluck dinner at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Francis Capone
Secretary

Attachment 1: February 2007 Agenda

St. Bede Catholic Church Pastoral Council

"St. Bede Parish Pastoral Council prayerfully follows Christ as servant leaders to our parish community by gathering in prayer, discerning the direction of the Holy Spirit, and empowering others to serve so that all may be one in Christ."

February 28, 2007 – 7:00pm - Conference Room, St. Bede Catholic Church

Opening Prayer – Greg Ballentine

- 1). **7:02-7:05pm** **Approval of Minutes**
David Clemens
- 2). **7:05-7:30pm** **Young Families**
Young Families Steering Committee
- 3). **7:30-8:00 pm** **Joint Retreat - Review**
David Clemens/Greg Ballentine
- 4). **8:00-8:10pm** **2007 Budget Process**
Peg Crew
- 5). **8:10-8:25pm** **2007's Major Goal**
Bill Theroux
- 6). **8:25-8:30pm** **Suggestion Box**
Tina Straight
- 7). **8:30-8:50pm** **Pastor's Report**
Fr. Abe

Closing Prayer – Toni Collingwood

St. Bede	Lenten Soup Supper	March 2 – 4:00-6:45pm – St. Bede
	Next PC meeting:	March 28 – 7:00-9:00pm –
	Newcomers Reception	March 18 Greg Ballentine Francis Capone Dave Clemens

Attachment 2: St. Bede Young Families Ministry Mission Statement

St. Bede Young Families Ministry -- Mission Statement

Through our faith and Baptism in Christ, the mission of the Young Families Ministry is to instill a moral and value-based foundation within a prayerful framework to the parents and children of St. Bede's Church. The Holy Family will serve as a role model for the ministry in its efforts to foster a sense of community, fellowship and strength among the many families of St. Bede's. The ministry celebrates the Catholic Faith through worship, special events, parent education and leadership. It serves as a foundation of support and religious counsel to parents and children through age-appropriate programming and event planning in conjunction with the liturgical calendar.

The ministry plans for exponential growth by contributing to the overall purpose and mission of St. Bede's Church in the following ways:

- 1). Increased visibility through event planning and fellowship.
- 2). Integration with related church ministries as a means of increasing communication and co-sponsoring church-related events.
- 3). Advocacy for young families and children by garnering support and recognition from the larger St. Bede's community.

St. Bede Young Families Ministry -- Current and Projected Outlook

The Young Family Ministry currently offers the following church-related activities to the families of St. Bede's:

1. Infant/Toddler Playgroups
2. Mom's Morning Fellowship
3. Spring Picnic/Children's Easter Egg Hunt
4. "Tot Spot" at the annual Parish Picnic
5. Advent Pot Luck Dinner
6. "Dinners for 6" – a "Meet and Greet" experience in the form of monthly potluck dinners

In the future, the Young Family Ministry hopes to offer the following programs to the families of St. Bede's:

1. Speakers Bureau and Young Families Lecture Series
2. Monthly Newsletter
3. Children's Choir
4. Playground/Tot Lot
5. "Parent's Morning Out"
6. Children's Liturgy
7. Children's Mass

Once a month (perhaps at the 11am mass) St. Bede's can offer a special mass to celebrate and support the children of the parish. Children can gather around the altar during the homily (under the supervision of various adults), and listen to the pastor's homily, to be delivered in an age-appropriate venue pertinent to the scriptural readings of the day.

Attachment 3: St. Bede Young Families Budget Proposal

1. Noah's Nursery

Purpose: Skilled and VIRTUS-trained parishioners supervise infants and toddlers so that parents can attend Mass and be fully present to worship God without distractions. While being cared for, children participate in music, reading and art programs that focus on liturgical themes.

Participants Served: approximately 40 children

Time: 9:00am and 11:00am Masses

Supplies: \$1855.00

Includes the following, unless otherwise donated:

- A. Dust Buster - \$30
- B. Rocking Chair - \$150
- C. New Pager System - \$1300
- D. Easel - \$50
- E. Puppet Theater - \$75
- F. Changing Supplies - \$100
- G. Art Products - \$50
- H. Miscellaneous - \$100

Clerical: \$75

Social: \$250

Repair and Replacement: \$200

Advertisement: \$100

Total Budget: \$2480

2. Mom's Morning Fellowship

Purpose: This ecumenical group for Christian women promotes fellowship through a covenant of prayer and reflection with Williamsburg Presbyterian Church. The women read and discuss Christian-based parenting books to garner examples of how best to raise their children and strengthen their marriages. Meanwhile, their children play together in Noah's Nursery.

Participants Served: 6-10 mothers; 12 children

Time and Location: 9:30am – first Wednesday of the month at St. Bede's Church

9:30am – third Wednesday of the month at Williamsburg Presbyterian Church

Please note: Currently the women of this group sit on the floor of the infant side of the nursery because no other room is available for them to meet. The Young Families Ministry Steering Committee requests a room to be available to these women in proximity to Noah's Nursery.

Nursery Worker: \$40/month (\$10/worker/hour)

Advertisement: \$100

Total Budget: \$580

3. Infant/Toddler Playgroup

Purpose: This forum serves as (1.) a support group for young mothers to discuss issues relating to the spiritual, emotional and physical development of their children, and (2.) a social gathering for children to interact with one another through age-appropriate play.

Participants Served: To date, five families (5 mothers/7 children) participate in this program. The Young Families Ministry anticipates an increase in the number of participants in 2007.

Time: 9:30-11:30am – second and fourth Wednesdays of the month

Location: Noah's Nursery

Snacks: \$20/year

Total Budget: \$20

Attachment 3: Cont.

4. Young Family Lecture Series

Purpose: In conjunction with the St. Bede's Lecture Series, the Young Families Ministry plans to host various guest speakers to discuss topics related to the lives of the young families and children of the parish. Topics pertaining to child rearing, age-appropriate discipline, strengthening marriages, balancing work and home, and making value-based choices in a secular and media-laden world will be presented from a Catholic perspective.

Participants Served: 10 families

Time: Two times a year

Location: St. Bede Church or Parish Center

Speaker Fee: FREE WILL OFFERING

Speaker Travel Costs (If applicable): \$200

Snacks: \$50 per event

Advertisement: \$50

Total Budget: \$300

5. Wedding/Funeral Childcare

Purpose: Skilled and VIRTUS-trained parishioners will be available for childcare during weddings or funerals by appointment only. Families of brides and grooms or of deceased relatives will be encouraged to contact a nursery coordinator to determine if that worker is available for childcare during the needed day/time. Families of the wedding parties and funerals are responsible for scheduling and paying for care so that their children can play in a safe environment while parents participate in these events.

Participants Served: 8–10 children

Time: On-going

Location: Noah's Nursery

Nursery Worker Salary: Families of wedding parties or funerals are responsible for the costs of child care providers. Currently cost is \$10 per worker per hour.

Total Budget: \$0

6. Dinners For 6

Purpose: Young families meet to welcome other new young families to the parish and to discuss their interests and concerns about raising a moral and value-based family in today's world. Three families (6 spouses and their children) meet for brunch or dinner twice a quarter and then rotate groups.

Participants Served: 12 families

Time: TBD by group

Location: Parishioners' homes (host family)

Total Budget: \$0

7. Spring Picnic

Purpose: Young families meet during the Lenten season to worship and enjoy a potluck lunch as a means of fostering a deeper sense of community and fellowship. The program will serve to continue welcoming new young families to the parish and provide children an opportunity to participate in an egg hunt and make craft projects that center around Lenten and Easter themes.

Participants Served: 20 families

Time: Tentatively April 1, 2007; 12:30pm

Location: Church grounds or Mid-County Park

Rental Fee: \$25

Paper Goods: \$25

Crafts: \$25

Total Budget: \$75

Attachment 3: Conc.

8. Tot Lot at Parish Picnic

Purpose: Young families worship together and then meet for lunch as a means of developing a deeper sense of community and fellowship. The Tot Lot provides the children of the parish a safe setting to play together, compete in sporting events and participate in craft projects.

Participants Served: 50 children

Time: September 2007; after 11:00am Mass

Location: Church grounds

Art Supplies: \$35

Prizes: \$35

Moon Bounce: \$80 per hour for 2 hours

Advertisement: \$322

Total Budget: \$552

9. Advent Pot Luck Dinner

Purpose: Young families gather to celebrate Mass and enjoy a potluck dinner as a means of fostering fellowship. Children will have the opportunity to play together and make friends while participating in art activities that focus on Advent themes. Afterwards, families are encouraged to attend the Grand Illumination ceremonies in Colonial Williamsburg and celebrate the festivities together.

Participants Served: 15-20 families

Time: Tentatively the first weekend in December 2007; 4pm

Location: St. Bede Parish Center

Decorations: \$20

Art Supplies: \$50

Paper Goods: \$30

Total Budget: \$100

Total Funds Requested for 2007: \$4107

Attachment 4: Pastoral Council Goals

St. Bede Catholic Church Pastoral Council Goals - 2007

I've taken some of these ideas expressed at the retreat on Saturday...because I think they should be considered for PC goals for 2007. Here they are...along with some other ideas:

1. Goal: Revalidate as goals those aspects of "One Table" that have not been implemented.

Larry Fronheiser said this best: Ten years ago, a group of people like us decided to proceed with a new church. Along with us, they identified a number of obstacles to the success of the new church.

We are still struggling with some of those. Rather than re-do that valuable work, we should validate that those items unfinished are still legitimate goals that we should pursue.

2. Goal: Increase parish awareness of the ministries of St. Bede and invite parishioners to participate more fully.
3. Goal: Increase participation in the Church by parishioners
4. Goal: Update the master Plan and ensure its compatibility with the parish mission statement.
5. Goal: Reevaluate the space aimed at better utilization.
6. Goal: help people recognize their Baptismal calling.
7. Goal: Review (and revise, as necessary) our Constitution and By-laws.
8. Goal: make our Parish a better place for our young families that encourage their greater participation in Church activities.
9. Goal: Determine the reason some consider St. Bede Church to be "not welcoming" and devise strategies to mitigate that perception.