

**St. Bede Pastoral Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**March 30, 2005**

**Present:** Greg Ballentine, Jack Bray, Msgr. Carr, Dave Clemens, Toni Collingwood, Mike Kaurich, John McCormack, Betty Morris, Miriam Saguto, Don Seger, Tess Thome

**Absent:** Rosanne Black, Charles Leahey, Mike Powers, Monica Rettig, Tina Straight, William Theroux, Jeannie Trainum

Don Seger opened the meeting at 7:00 pm and Dave Clemens offered the opening prayer. Don asked that everyone remember Rosanne and her mother in their prayers.

The minutes for the February meeting were approved.

Don introduced and welcomed Mike Kaurich, a member of the Liturgy Committee and Ministry Coordinator for Adult Acolytes and Altar Servers.

**Committee Reports:**

Liturgy Committee: Betty distributed meeting minutes from the March 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. She commented that the Easter events were great and this was supported by several additional comments from the group. Parking at the Easter day masses went well and were like “a normal crowded Sunday”. The committee is getting ready for May, a very active month with Mother’s Day, Trinity, Corpus Christi, Pentecost, etc.

Social Ministry: Jack stated that this ministry sees an average of 3+ people each day with many being “walk-ins”. He also has found that they do a lot of counseling of people on budgeting, bankruptcy and other financial matters. Early child-care is also a growing area of activity. The SM volunteers continue their good work and are wonderful in their steadfast work in the ministry. Jack finds them to be innovative, creative and caring in their work. Jack gave an example: Friday afternoon before Good Friday a large group of W&M students (representing sports organizations) brought in food items tagged with their schools sports team names. Space issues in the counting room demanded that the food be organized and sent out by Monday. SM volunteers stayed to sort the items and loaded it into their own cars for delivery to FISH that day. Thanks to the students and the volunteers, who went above expectations to meet a need.

Christian formation: no report but Don commented that First Communion is approaching.

**Old Business:**

Faith in Action: Don, reporting for Rosanne, commented that the easel display and sign-up sheets in the commons drew a good response. The names of 36 volunteers were turned over to Frank Bagli – a member of FIA and a St. Bede parishioner. Three training sessions are being set-up and FIA staff will contact those who volunteered. Don will speak with Rosanne and also follow-up with Frank Bagli.

Neighborhood Ministry: Toni reported that Tom and Dorothy Leahey, First Colony, had a meeting and many came – some from other areas. She is working with several areas on Greensprings Rd. Depending upon the size of the potential areas she will try to organize them as individual neighborhoods or combine into groups. She is also working on the Jamestown Rd. area.

Neighborhood Round Table: Don reported that April has been the target date for the first of these sessions but there is still some confusion over where, when and how to proceed.

As an aside Don added that PC members have clear guidelines (by-laws) on attendance and missed meetings. Acceptance of assignments and subsequent missed meetings has led to program goals being negatively impacted. As Chairman he will address this issue. It is important, with the relatively small number of members, that each of us takes ownership for what we agree to do.

This drew comments from several members offering assistance in the JCC area (Dave), and Queens Wood, Cobble Creek, Queens Lake (Tess). Betty added that this program is similar to the One Table effort but with different topics and that we can go back to those plans for guidance. All agreed that we needed to identify sites with a clear understanding of dates, agenda and neighborhoods. We need to get one event going (use newsletter & bulletin to broadcast) and to learn from it and subsequent events. Miriam suggested that we put Jay's proposed agenda on the April meeting to talk about the event, how it is to be run and the goals. Dave offered to take the agenda and to develop it for that review. Don will get the agenda outline to Dave. Msgr. counseled that these events will be good and useful but they are not for solving all our problems but to dialogue as a community and prayerfully seek a path forward.

Pipe Organ Update: Miriam offered that the program is going well:

- A) Builders left for Easter with 3 returning this week
- B) Each pipe is being tuned individually – takes 4-6 weeks
- C) There are a couple of pipes with dents and these will be repaired
- D) Three fund raising events in March with Msgr., Neil Kraft and Chuck Eames (project manager for the organ company) speaking
- E) 50% of people at the fund raisers had gifted and 50% had not
- F) We will be doing more mailings and especially at the time the organ is played
- G) The organ will be played as soon as it is available with the dedication on Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> with the Bishop's consecration and a guest artist
- H) It is traditional for a guest artist to be brought in for a dedication of this type

Discussion about the organ drew comments/questions about seeking more choir members, volunteer choirs versus paid members, the children's choir, etc. It was agreed that we would see if Neil could attend the April meeting and be the first major ministry to dialogue with the PC about plans, needs, etc.

Combined Retreat: the retreat is scheduled for May 7, 2005 at the Lady of Mt. Carmel center and will run from 9 am to 3 pm. Msgr. will let Don know when the facilitator has confirmed their attendance. It was agreed that the set-up for the meeting would be as was done last year.

Parish Family Album: this starts on April 1<sup>st</sup>. with one camera for the first week and 2 cameras for the three subsequent weeks. Due to the Virginia Symphony playing at St. Bede some appointments will need to be rescheduled. A phone number for contacting the company will be in the bulletin this week and the company will do reminder phone calls to those who have signed up.

Suggestion Box: no update.

PC Goals Recommendations: all agreed that the goals as outlined in Bill's e-mail of 3/12/05 were correct and final. Greg is to contact Bill to determine which major ministries have been contacted and if any dates for their presentation/discussion have been set. Bill will contact Neil (Music Ministry) and determine if he can attend the April PC meeting.

Jack added that he would be meeting with some of the smaller ministries on April 12<sup>th</sup> i.e., FISH, FIA, Haiti, Hispanic Committee, JOY, Friends for Life. He will provide us with a synopsis of this meeting in April.

It was clarified that the FIA program is listed as a goal since it, at the time of developing the goals, was not yet fully established. Once it is established as a ministry it will be removed as a goal and become a part of the PC annual ministry review.

### **New Business:**

Parishioner's Complaints: Msgr. commented that some have felt the need and have contacted the Diocese to express their views re: some liturgical points. These have to be dealt with positively and as they come. Msgr. has met with some of the letter writers.

Personnel Board Interview: Msgr. Muench will meet with the PC in the new church conference room on April 12<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. The discussion that followed included comments:

- A) Msgr. Muench will be the only Interviewer and the meeting should take @ 1 hour
- B) There are about 50 openings – the list grew after the initial list of openings was published
- C) The essential question will be “What characteristics are you looking for in your next pastor?” There is no need for the PC to discuss this ahead of the meeting in that our responses should be spontaneous however Don will send us any feedback that he has already received.

- D) Due to the Catholic Virginian article many letters in favor of Msgr. Carr remaining at St. Bede are going to the Diocese (Fr. Grace). We should trust that Msgr. Muench would reflect the attitudes that have been sent in to the Diocese.

New Rectory: A permit to build is expected in the spring and it will take a year to build.

Pope John Paul II: Dave commented that in preparation for the death of the Pope we should have a plan for a celebration of his life and ministry. Msgr. responded that this is to be done and added other churches/people will be invited to participate.

The next meeting is scheduled for **April 27<sup>th</sup>**. Chuck and Mike are will be offering the prayers.

We closed with a prayer from Toni.

Respectfully submitted,

Greg Ballentine  
Secretary