

**St. Bede Pastoral Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**May 25, 2005**

**Present:** Greg Ballentine, Jack Bray, Francis Capone, Msgr. Carr, Jay Colley, Dave Clemens, Charles Leahey, John McCormack, Betty Morris, Monica Rettig, Miriam Saguto, Don Seger, Don Snyder, Tina Straight, William Theroux, Tess Thome, Jeannie Trainum

**Absent:** Rosanne Black, Toni Collingwood

Don called the meeting to order at 7 pm and Monica offered the opening prayer. The minutes from the April meeting were approved. Don welcomed the newest PC member, Mr. Francis Capone.

**Parishioner Presentation**

Don Snyder was introduced as guest speaker presenting information concerning a major fund raising event for the benefit of St. Bede Parish. A benefit concert featuring the Irish tenor, Anthony Kearns, is planned for October 7, 2005. Mr. Kearns is an internationally renowned performer and one of the original Irish tenors. This can be a very positive event that will benefit the parish but it will take a lot of good work. Don distributed an outline of the how this effort would progress and it included information on:

1. Ticket prices (including a seating chart)
2. Timing
3. Underwriters/Sponsors
4. Advertising
5. What volunteers could do

In response to questions Don stated that our music minister has been very supportive of the effort, that this program is separate from any other fund raising efforts e.g., the organ fund raising currently underway, and that @ \$30K-\$50K could be realized for the church with a successful campaign. Tickets will go on sale after all masses and announcements will be made at each mass.

**Committee Reports:**

Social Ministry: Jack reviewed the following:

1. With news of the recent W&M dormitory fire and that students were in need Jack, on behalf of St. Bede Social Ministry, sent a check to the relief fund for \$1000.00. This was done without hesitation or a formal request from the school or the relief fund.
2. The business of the SM continues by appointment or “walk-ins” and food is distributed as needed and without question. If there is excess food it is sent to FISH. Jack continues regular contact with the Salvation Army, JCC Social Services, United Way, Catholic Charities, FIA, etc.

3. Prudently and within budget constraints the SM sends monetary donations to Haiti regularly.
4. Jack has been a resource to other St. Bede ministries e.g., presenting to the RE kindergarten program and working with the CCM.
5. SM would like to have more room to operate but can manage with the current set up.
6. SM is maintaining good public relations and continues to be one of the most significant social ministries in the area.

In response to questions Jack replied that the current volunteers are great and that new ones are always welcome. He also noted that he does keep a file of the thank you letters/comments received and that these have been and will continue to be shared with the parish via the bulletin and newsletter.

Liturgy Committee: The last Liturgy Committee meeting, which included a potluck supper with Msgr. Carr, was the night before so minutes are not currently available. Items discussed included:

1. 12 new Altar Servers were trained, a meeting for Sacristans to review new cup procedure with new trays is planned, and the Corpus is back on the cross.
2. The use of lectors reading in foreign languages at Pentecost was well received but will be polished up for next year.
3. At the upcoming Sunday masses there will be a blessing of all ministers and the 11 am mass will include a procession of the Holy Eucharist and a 3-hour adoration.
4. May 31<sup>st</sup> will be the second anniversary of the church and core members will be recognized. Memorial Day and Fourth of July masses will include recognition of patriotic sacrifices.
5. There is no Liturgy Committee meeting in July.

### **Old Business:**

Neighborhood Ministry: Don asked that we all continue our prayers for Toni as she recoups. The Neighborhood Ministry program continues to show progress as evidenced by the several bulletin announcements for neighborhood masses.

Neighborhood Round Table: Dave and Jay reported:

1. The next PC meeting (June 22<sup>nd</sup>) will include our first Neighborhood Round Table program. Don added that in his meeting with Fr. Abe this was discussed and Fr. Abe is supportive of this program and proceeding as planned with the first such meeting.

2. This first meeting will focus on neighborhoods in Green Springs and the Rte. 5 corridor area. It will be held in the Jamestown High School cafeteria, will start at 6 pm with a potluck supper provided by the neighborhoods. We should bring something small.
3. The PC meeting, abridged session, will start at 7 pm and then the floor will be opened to the community. Fr. Abe will be present for this meeting.
4. This meeting will be promoted through the newsletter and Miriam will send out a letter to the specific communities involved. The results of the meeting will be reviewed in the July Newsletter.

Msgr. added that he is thrilled by this activity and he advised us to use it as a time to listen, to take note of the communities input and not try to solve any issues there. Issues will be taken back for consideration, prayerfully deliberated and responded to appropriately. We are the guests of the neighborhoods.

In further discussion, it was agreed that these sessions should not be widely open to those in other neighborhoods. In order to provide for sufficient time for those included neighborhoods we do need to limit the attendees to some degree. All neighborhoods will be included over time as the Round Tables continue.

Pipe Organ: Miriam reported that there was good feedback to the May 22<sup>nd</sup> appeals. Connie and Msgr. did a wonderful job at all masses reviewing and explaining where we are at this time. Preliminary news shows that an additional \$15K has come into the fund so we are at @ \$585K with our goal being \$850K. There will be a follow-up letter to new families encouraging a gift pledge. Miriam asked everyone to express their thanks to Connie for her tireless energy in this campaign. There will be a blessing and dedication of the organ at the 9 am mass on June 5<sup>th</sup>.

Suggestion Box: Monica stated that having the box out produces a regular flow of suggestions/comments and that there would be a suggestion box column in the June newsletter. After review the suggestions/comments are routed to whomever it applies. To date some of the more active areas of input included the organ, youth groups and building and grounds. We have a system going now with responses from the appropriate people and feedback to the parish in the newsletter.

**New Business**: there was no new business.

**Other Business:**

Comments from Msgr.: Msgr. is sad to be leaving with much having been done and much left to do. St. Bede is a great parish with great people. He sees challenges ahead but he has been receiving many positive emails and well wishes so he is also looking forward to his new responsibilities. He expressed his thanks to everyone at St. Bede.

Don expressed the thanks of St. Bede in general and the PC specifically for all of the good work done by Msgr. Carr for the parish and the community. He then presented Msgr. with a token of our thanks: tickets to the Richmond Symphony. At this time individual members of the PC expressed their heartfelt thanks, appreciation and best wishes to Msgr. Carr. He will be missed but we also look forward to seeing him again in Richmond and/or in Williamsburg.

Don offered the closing prayer.

A reception followed.

**The next meeting will be June 22<sup>nd</sup> and will be at Jamestown High School. It will start with a potluck supper at 6 pm.** Tina and William will be offering the prayers.

Respectfully submitted,

Greg Ballentine  
Secretary