

**St. Bede Pastoral Council**  
**Synopsis of meeting on September 15, 2004**

**Present:** Greg Ballentine, Rosanne Black, Monsignor Carr, Toni Collingwood, John McCormack, Genevieve McQuade, P.J. McQuade, Mike Powers, Betty Morris, Celeste Prezioso, Monica Rettig, Miriam Saguto, Don Seger, William Theroux, Tess Thome, Dick Woestman, Marianne Wrightson

**Absent:** Dave Clemens, Jay Colley, Charles Leahey,

Don Seger opened the meeting at 7:00 pm and Dick Woestman offered the prayer.

Don welcomed two new parishioners attending the PC meeting: Genevieve and P. J. McQuade.

Minutes from the July meeting were approved.

**Committee reports:**

Liturgy Committee: August meeting minutes were distributed with comments:

- The Second Annual Liturgical Ministers Gathering is scheduled for November 13 at 9:30 am.
- Training for new Ministers of the Eucharist is scheduled for Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> and an AA meeting is planned for Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>
- The LARC Coordinator is in need of volunteers for the Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> LARC conference.

Social Ministry: a search committee is established looking for a replacement for the Director who recently resigned. A new job description is being developed for this role.

**Monsignor's Comments:**

- With the inclement weather a decision on whether to postpone the Sunday parish picnic will be made soon.
- Msgr. expressed his appreciation for the August PC/FC meeting
- He is currently very busy but open to hearing about all issues.

**Old Business:**

Youth Minister Appointment: Michelle Kelly has been appointed. She has been introducing herself at all of the recent weekend Masses. Msgr. commented on how poised and self-confident Michelle is and that she is moving forward. It was suggested that both Michelle and our new music minister be invited to the next PC meeting.

**Old Business: continued**

Care Ministry Progress Report: the coordinator distributed a report on her discussion with the director of the Faith In Action (FIA) organization. The process that FIA follows is similar to that which was outlined and distributed at the last PC meeting. Our proposed organization would not be redundant to what FIA does and there is a great need for this type of support. We could join in their network but before we continue (i.e. be autonomous or join with FIA) she will follow-up with the FIA Director and discuss:

- Can we have the FIA educate our parishioners (e.g. speak at Masses)
- If FIA can present a plan to us on how to go forward
- If FIA would want to recruit volunteers in the commons
- If we join with the FIA would a St. Bede coordinator be needed as a contact point?
- Would FIA let our volunteers into their training program?
- Was FIA involved in anti-war demonstrations or other political activities?

Our coordinator will report on the above discussion with FIA at the next PC meeting.

Neighborhood Ministry: our coordinator reported:

- Coordinators for the Greensprings area have been named
- A lead for the Powhattan Secondary effort has been named and our coordinator has shared her “how to” book on organizing a neighborhood group
- A parishioner has agreed to coordinate Queens Lake and will do it with someone else in her area
- A lead has been found to organize Windsor Forest

The coordinator will report at the next meeting on the next groups identified for development. We should consider how to get to the “pockets” of Catholics who are not in a specifically named neighborhood.

“We’ve Come This Far by Faith”: a document entitled “Summary Report of Meeting with Bishop Francis X. DiLorenzo, August 23, 2004” was distributed and discussed:

- The Bishop referenced “We’ve Come This Far by Faith” and while he was impressed by it he wanted to get feedback on whether what is stated in it is still viable and if it is still what we believe.
- After discussion the Bishop charged the parish to redo the document based upon changes in the parish since the documents creation. Feedback is due by Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>. The PC would solicit responses from the various St. Bede Ministries in order to develop a response to the Bishop.
- It was agreed that the goal of providing feedback to the Bishop is good but the method was disputed. A consensus developed that the better way to get the St. Bede Parish community feedback would be to use a neighborhood approach. By using many neighborhood presentation/discussion sessions at various times, days and venues we could get a better and truer response. This would be a time for us to listen and not a time to provide answers.

**Old Business: continued**

- It was also agreed that a formal document from the Bishop, which outlined the goals of this effort, would be a plus.
- A PC member agreed to lead this effort. Where needed parish staff would assist in coordinating parish facilities for the meetings.

Parish Registry/Parishioner Information Update: at the last PC meeting a Parish Registry program was approved. This is one way to start an update of our census data. A parish representative would act as our liaison to the chosen company, PCA Int'l.

- Parish staff stated that the company would do the scheduling. The parish could provide a current information sheet and ask the parishioner to verify and/or update the information we currently have on file.
- It was added that as soon as we have a parish liaison appointed, a meeting with the PCA Int'l. Representative could be arranged and a start date established. The goal would be to have this registry done by next year.
- A PC member will contact the company to see what the liaison role would entail.

**New Business:**

Funding: After the PC/FC meeting on finances the question of when the fund drive would begin was raised:

- The installation process for the organ is set to begin the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday in January with “de-construction” of the existing area to start after Christmas. The goal is to have the organ in place by Easter with dedication events occurring for up to one year. The Bishop would probably come to bless the organ.
- Parish staff offered that the financial campaign would roll out in early November:
  - Msgr. would speak at all Masses
  - A specific brochure would be published and done in conjunction with the organ builder
  - Use a theme of buying a piece of the organ e.g., a pipe, a stop, etc.
  - Reach across all levels
  - Mid November letter to new families (@300 – 350)
  - December newsletter story about the organ that will feature gift opportunities
  - In mid-December a One Table document also published
  - Will need help from PC/FC with one-on-one solicitations

**New Business: continued**

LARC Conference: The PC President will schedule a meeting with our LARC coordinator to discuss the need for facilitators for this conference. Anyone who is interested should contact our LARC coordinator.

PC Year: FC is asking that the PC year be changed to conform to the diocesan year i.e., July 1 – June 30. Discussions/questions on this point:

- Why does the budget impact the PC year? The response was that the goals of the PC have impact upon the parish. With 4 people changing with elections in January the change in the PC impacts budget participation e.g., when the PC implemented the Stephen Ministry it changed the budget. The FC believes that the proposed change would provide better coordination. With new members of the PC starting in January they cannot participate fully.
- If the change is made the elections for the PC would occur at Lent, when retreat events are high, when first communions are done, etc. and it would be hard to add elections, too. It may be harder to get people to run in May.
- Budget changes could be worked out with a better understanding of the budget issues. PC changes to the budget are small and have little impact on the FC.
- This is an opportunity to bring the PC and FC closer together. A presentation/discussion by the FC would help us all to better understand their needs and how the PC can help. We will ask the FC to present/discuss with the PC why the change is requested. What does the FC want and/or expect from the PC?
- The budget reflects the goals of the parish. As the parish changes and we seek input through the neighborhood meetings the governing structure should change. The FC spends funds based upon the parish vision. The role of the PC is to get out there and get the vision.

Comments:

- The PC meeting at the end of 2004/the beginning of 2005 will be used to establish goals:
  - Have established goals set and understood
  - What we want to address and how the PC can have an impact.
- The Office of Ecumenism needs a representative from the PC.
  - There is a regional meeting October 9<sup>th</sup> at St. Joan of Arc, 9:30 – 2:00
  - Let our liturgy representative know if you are interested
  - This is an opportunity to interact with other churches
- The Jamestown Athletic Director has offered youth groups free tickets to any home football game.

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We closed with a prayer from Rosanne Black.

**The next PC meeting is October 27<sup>th</sup>.**

Respectfully submitted,

PC Secretary