

**MINUTES OF JOINT MEETING
OLN PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
OLN FINANCE COUNCIL
OLN STAFF
07/12/10**

Parish Council Members in Attendance: Betsy Baker, Patsy Ford, Pat Marlowe, Patti Peters, Joe Rosenberg, Matt Schallon, Claudeen Shelton, Veronica Wright, Fr. Joe Lehman

Parish Council Members Absent: Theresa Mercier, Melina Mercier, Diane Shelton, Sandy O'Shaughnessy, Tony Lefkowitz

Parish Council Guests: Seminarian – Matt Kiehl, Dick Surrusco

Finance Council Members in Attendance: Rita Herbst, Rene Gagnier, Tim Garrison, Beth Ruffing, Terry Hauck

Finance Council Member Absent: Bernie Gliniecki

Pastoral Staff Members in Attendance: Raina Lewis, Rita Harris, Colleen Hernandez, Jim Ridenhour

Pastoral Staff Members Absent: Dan Keeley, Donna Keeley, Victoria Rosenberg, Maggie Caldarella

A. Prayer and Question of the Week

B. We Walk By Faith

Fr. Joe introduced the parish council's subcommittee report on We Walk By Faith which is a compilation of information gathered from three consecutive parish councils and the current one, the subcommittee findings and results of the parish survey (strengths, needs and comment section). The report is separated into the strengths and needs of Word, Worship, Community and Service and specifies a one year plan for the current fiscal year and a five year plan. Once input from the leadership of the parish is obtained at this meeting, changes will be incorporated into the Power Point for presentation to the parish in a Town Hall Meeting. The goal is to provide a document to the Bishop (prior to his visit October 31, 2010) that is reflective of who we are as a parish that can be used to plan for the future needs (spiritual, physical and financial) of the parish.

873 surveys were completed by the parish. The diocese tabulated the first pages and sent a summary of those results. The back page which contained the handwritten perceived strengths, needs and comments from the parishioners were returned copied onto a disk. The parish council subcommittee of Betsy Baker, Patti Peters, and Joe Rosenberg with Fr. Joe reviewed the strengths, needs and comments on every parish survey and recorded the results. These results were integrated with the three parish councils' responses to the Bishop's questions regarding Word, Worship, Community and Service.

The entire Power Point was reviewed with the leadership gathered with editing and rephrasing. There was much confusion over the difference between Community and Service in terms of what ministries and activities were included under each. Although there was criticism from the group over the current parish council's and the subcommittee's response under community (the group

Joint Meeting on We Walk By Faith Minutes continued:

thinking it belonged under service), the scope and content of the answers were reflective of the Bishop's questions and his criteria of what was to be included in Community. The gathered group suggested the category "Community" reflects internal activities to the parish and "Service" involves those outside the parish walls. The subcommittee will take this into account when revising the presentation for the parish and when preparing the Bishop's report. The format that the Bishop has requested and his descriptions will take precedent in the compiling of the report. It is possible the information will be presented a different way to the parish (as this is for our use ultimately) and then put in the report in accordance to what the Bishop requested.

Communication was brought up several times as a key area requiring attention in the parish. Various ways of using what is already in place such as parish e-mail, the website, mailings and the bulletin were discussed. A parish electronic newsletter was also mentioned.

Concern was expressed regarding the fact that individual initiatives and ministries were not listed in the report/presentation. It was explained that the Bishop's report format does not allow significant room to answer the questions asked, and the entire endeavor was to provide a snapshot of the parish, not list every single activity that goes on in the parish. In addition, focus items in the one-year and five-year plans are initiatives and goals the parish council along with the Finance Council and staff will work on collaboratively. Together as a group the councils will flesh out the objectives, taking into consideration human and financial resources of the parish. We will also take into account what is obtainable, and the correct action to take within the time frame allotted within the one year plan and the five year plan.

Joe Rosenberg discussed making the corrections and then e-mailing the Power Point to those gathered.

- C. Next Meeting – August 09, 2010**
Question of the Week – Veronica Wright
Minutes – Patti Peters

Respectfully submitted,

Patti Peters
07/15/10

Approved by Council – 07/20/10