

**Divine Mercy Catholic Church**  
**Parish Pastoral Council Meeting – May 12, 2009**  
**Minutes**  
**Approved June 9, 2009**

**1. Call to Order:** Christine Shaffer called the meeting to order.

**2. Opening Prayer:** John Tobin reflected on the Gospel of John 15: 9-17

**3. Roll Call:**

**Present:** Fr. Kevin, Fr. Fernando, Lisa Sammon Roach, Dennis Germann, Mary Campbell, Christine Shaffer, Karen Sommers, Patti Gartner, John Tobin, Kerry McCarthy, Lois Donahue Cleary, Doug Knutson, Bill Skluzacek, Shane Pemrick, Betty Berge, Jorge Martinez

**Absent:** Jeff Pridie

**4. Parishioner Comment:**

- A Faith Formation catechist expressed concern about how infrequently some parishioners go to Mass. She brought palms to class and noticed it was obvious that some of the kids had not gone to Mass on Palm Sunday by their reaction. She expressed concern that if we change FFF the kids will miss out. Another comment about FFF was that someone was pleased to hear there was feedback from the catechists.
- Someone suggested that bulletin inserts be printed on both sides and also that we have too many leftover. One location will make it easier because we won't need extras at 2 sites. A decision has been made not to have any inserts for the next 4 months.

**5. Consent Agenda Item:**

- Deacon Dan will be taking a group of DMCC parishioners to an information meeting by Society of St. Vincent De Paul on May 16.
- Parish Life Committee-comment was made that the agenda for the large group was not as robust as people would have liked-felt just meeting in small groups would have been beneficial. Need to evaluate this as fewer people are attending. The Parish Ministry Committee asked the question of where is the point of no return regarding the budget? There is a question of where we are going as impacted by decreased collections and Finance Committee asks staff to cut further.

**6. Finance Committee Report:** John Tobin

- Operating expense-negative # is mostly due to loss of investment income. However it is only gone if we take it out. Endowment income is not invested in the market
- Question how do we control next year to live within our means? Staff cutting their budgets, retirement of Deacon Dan.
- DMCC will be challenged with ministry priorities.

- PPC will need to watch budgeting concerns over the next 3 years. The proposed budget showed a \$20,000 loss. Staff able to cut \$10,000.
- May have special meeting in June for budget approval as finance committee may not have all information needed to propose a budget on June 9.

## 7. Agenda Items:

- Tri-Parish Committee Discussion:** Name changed from Cluster Parish. Scheduled to meet 1-2 x/year to share ideas.
- Stewardship:** Surveys are coming in. Bill Lewis is developing a spread sheet to tabulate the information. He will put this on a CD and train volunteers to input the information. We have 4 new families to welcome.
- PPC Nomination Process:** All three nominees: Carol Freed, Abraham Garcia and Gene Von Ruden have accepted the nomination and will serve on the Parish Council beginning at the August meeting. They will be invited to the June meeting to get acquainted.
- End of Year Party:** Lisa asked if anyone would volunteer to host. Denny & Patt Germann will host this year. Sign-up sheet for potluck supper was sent around.
- Hispanic Ministry:** The PPC was joined by 4 members of the Hispanic Community: Miguel Salazar, Gloria Maldonado and Sergio Alcala. Fr. Kevin gave an overview of Hispanic Ministry in Faribault. He said we are one faith community and to better work toward that we need to listen to each other, share our stories and realize we are all in this together.

Gloria Maldonado shared her story of coming to the United States from Guatemala. There were not many Latinos in Faribault when she came in 1995. There was no Latino food. There were two masses in Spanish each month. Gloria's experience of the Catholic community in Faribault has been a blessing. Gloria shared how the Latino community has worked together. They started a prayer group in their homes and it eventually grew and moved to Sacred Heart where it is today. They sent a petition to the Archdiocese of St. Paul/Minneapolis to ask for a mass every Sunday.

Small group discussions were held to answer the question of how do we continue to foster community?

### Group 1

- Monthly bi-lingual mass followed by a party and food
- Encourage parishioners to attend both Hispanic and English masses and cultural events.
- Offer a meal-invite young people (Hispanic and English speaking)

### Group 2

- Mass-have bi-lingual worship aids (we already have these)

Dialogue regarding challenges and strengths-allows involvement in whole community. How? Come to each others councils and liturgies.

- Understanding the structures of our community.

#### Group 3

- Continued longevity with Latino priests
- Continued education/communication with Latino and Anglo together
- Bring a greater feeling of welcoming at Sunday services or community events i.e. Spirit Fest.
- Monthly bi-lingual mass

#### Group 4

- 300-350 people attending Hispanic mass; 95% are Catholic-there is a sense that those who are going elsewhere (other denominations) are unhappy
- Hospitality-what avenues exist to draw all people together-refresher course for adults who teach the children, merging liturgical ministries, celebrate that we are family and incorporate this aspect more fully in the life of the parish.

Sherri Langfeldt, BA Principal was introduced during the meeting.

**Next meeting is June 9, 2009**

- **6:30 pm Denny/Patt Germann Home**

Respectfully submitted,  
Patti Gartner, Secretary