

## **St. John's Pastoral Council Meeting May 12, 2009**

**Members Present:** Linda Hayek, Ben Lowndes, Matt Oberst, Lillian Rossiter, Connie Shonka, Sean Joyce-Whipp  
Pastor: Fr Bert Thelen  
Staff: Rita Sherman

**I. Opening Prayer** Linda Hayek opened the meeting with a prayer.

**II. Approval Of Minutes** The minutes of the April 14, 2009 meeting were approved as amended.

### **III. Pastor's Report**

Mass Schedule - Fr. Bert reported that a decision has been made to retain the 4:30 p.m. Sunday mass during the CU fall, winter and spring schedules. The liturgy committee will begin to introduce music at the 9:00 p.m. Sunday mass.

Library - Sr. Barbara Markey has begun working on arranging reading materials in the Library Resource Center. The library is located in the former Martyr's Chapel.

Marriage Preparation - Meetings are in process with Campus Ministry for the purpose of reorganizing classes for marriage preparation. Cathy Pedersen will remain as the marriage preparation coordinator for the interim. Additional facilitators for this program are being sought and a stipend will be provided to the facilitators. Costs will be offset by a fee paid by those participating in marriage preparation.

The automatic doors are in the process of being installed.

Fr Bert gave a report on an incident involving a fall by a priest. He further reported on a disturbance which occurred during a Sunday night mass. Both incidents have been resolved.

### **IV. Recognition of Ben Lowndes**

The Pastoral Council congratulated Ben Lowndes on his graduation from Creighton University. Ben and Fr. Bert announced that the student dinners are delayed until the fall term and students on campus at the time of the Parish Picnic will be invited to attend that event.

**V. Parish Picnic** The annual St. John's picnic will be held on Saturday, August 1<sup>st</sup> following the 5:00 p.m. mass. A cash bar will be offered at this event. Fr. Bert will contact Kathleen Denne and Mary Lee Brock for a summary of the picnic held in 2008.

**VI. Recognition of Fr. Ted Bohr** Fr. Ted Bohr will be leaving to teach a program in Rome for students from Loyola University of Chicago as well as serve as a chaplain to these students. Jerry Stender has volunteered to assist with a recognition and farewell for Fr. Bohr. Fr. Bert will assist with this as well.

**VII. CCSJ and Leadership Conference** Students have requested that a collection be held for members of CCSJ to attend a fall Leadership Conference. Two collections are held per year for CCSJ.

**VIII. Tekakwitha Conference** Fr. Bert has been contacted by Angie Stover from Pine Ridge Reservation. Angie will travel with approximately fifteen other Lakota Tribe members from Pine Ridge Reservation to the Tekakwitha Conference in Durham No. Carolina. The group is in need of overnight accommodations in Omaha for the nights of June 29<sup>th</sup> and July 5<sup>th</sup>. Fr. Bert will work with Lil Rossiter and other Parish Partners to arrange these accommodations.

**IX. Membership On Pastoral Council** Matt Oberst and Jennie Tillemen have given notice that their terms on the council are ending. There are several three year terms open. The council reviewed the nomination form. A copy of this form will be placed in the newsletter for use by persons interested in serving on the council. A new Council President will be elected at the next meeting however the current president, Linda Hayek, will chair that meeting.

## **X. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting is:

Tuesday, August 11 at 5:30 p.m

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lillian Rossiter