

# MINUTES

## St. Bridget Parish Pastoral Council Meeting—September 15, 2010

The St. Bridget Parish Council meeting was called to order by John Smith on Wednesday, September 15, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. Msgr. Carr opened the meeting with a prayer.

**Present:** Msgr. Carr, John Smith (Chair), David Anderson, Charlene Bechely, Joe Jowaisas, Augie Keller, Mike Kozak, Elizabeth Martin, Jim Melvin, Paul Sinclair Fr. David Stanfill, Mark Sweeney, Donna Weber, Kay White.

**Absent:** Tim Corbett, Marie Swider

**CENSUS COMMITTEE REPORT:** Paul Sinclair reported that the Census Committee (Msgr. Carr, Augie Keller, Donna Weber and Paul Sinclair) had met and discussed: Why, Implementation and Communications for census. Communications for the census will consist of: Article in November Bridge, bulletin announcements, large poster, 3 emails, and website. Parish has about 3,000 email addresses to date. The Diocese has census form we will use.

Time line:

1. Before Nov. 7. Easel and box in front corner of Commons: **Census Central**.
2. Nov. 7 & 17. Cards in pews and time given for parishioners to fill out.
3. Nov. 21: Can go to Chapel and fill out cards.
4. Follow Up. Need to set end date - (Jan. 1?)

There is a good software program that Kimberly is looking into which would allow parishioners to register and update information via computer. We hope to have it in place so that registration can be done by either hard copy or computer.

**BISHOPS APPEAL:** Robert Burge spoke representing the 2010 Bishops Appeal. Fr. Stanfill will give talk about the Appeal on weekend of Oct 2, 3. Asked the help of PC on weekend of Oct 9,10. Members signed up to give presentation at each Mass. Part of the money comes back to parish. Goal for Diocese is \$1,600,000.

**PRO-LIFE MINISTRY:** Mike Kozak reported that Geline Williams, two K of C members and Mike met with Msgr. Carr. to discuss how to make pro-life efforts more visible in the parish. 30% of Catholics are affected by abortion. Need education, prayer and witness. Some suggestions put forth in the meeting were:

- Promote Rachel's Vineyard
- K of C sponsoring Ultrasound Initiative (new machine needed).
- New Brochures educating folks on abortion needed.
- Get in touch with General Assembly via Va. Catholic Conference on the rules going before the GA next session.
- Promote Respect Life Holy Hour at St. Bridget.
- Promote March for Life (Jan. 24) St. Bridget wants 50 people.

**PARISH PLANNING UPDATE:** Parish staff reviewing at present time. Msgr. wants to see what parish should focus on. PC given PP Study and asked to read it and report on it. Mgr. would like to discuss and narrow focus at next P.C. meeting.

**COMMITTEE UPDATES:**

**Finance Committee: Mark Sweeney**

- Some Capital Reserve funds had to be used for boiler, roof and piano. Need to rebuild Cap. Reserve Fund. Cash flow tight.

**Communications: Kay White**

- Communication efforts for Parish Census and Bishops Appeal are underway. (Plans listed previously.)
- Catholic Heart Work Camp looking to enlarge presence on website
- Church and School Annual Reports will be on website.
- St. Bridget School website to be refreshed.

**Liturgy Committee and Seniors: Donna Weber**

- Cookie Lewis "Concert for Education" scheduled Oct. 29.
- September meeting of Seniors drew 50+ people.

**St. Bridget School: Charlene Bechely**

- Mass for entire school next Tues. Class masses will be held this year and mass time changed to 8:10a.m. in order to accommodate schedules.
- First Spirit Day will be for Haiti. Children will wear colors of Haiti.
- New Youth Minister spoke to middle school students.

**Women's Ministry: Elizabeth Martin**

- Open house held last Thursday, Sept 9.
- Two Bible Studies being held: *The Bible Timeline* on Wednesdays, 9-11:00a.m. And *Walking by Faith* starting Sept. 29 at 7:00p.m.

**Building and Grounds Committee:**

- Kneelers being looked at.
- A.C in crying room discussed
- Pat Ross getting bids on seeding and watering front. Looking at short term and long term landscaping plan.

**PARISH STAFF UPDATES:** Msgr. Carr said that parish needs a full-time person in charge of development. Mary Townsend's job as Minister of Sick will be divided into to parts: Trish Markow will take over the funeral ministry and Paul Amrhein will minister to the sick. Jennifer Sperberg is leaving and replacements are being interviewed. (35 hr./week.). New Youth Minister, Mark Kowalski, has started at St. Bridget Church.

Respectfully submitted,

Alicia Meyer  
Recording Secretary

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, Oct. 20 at 7:00 p.m. in Parish Center Meeting Room**