

MINUTES  
St. Bridget Church  
Parish Pastoral Council Meeting  
March 21, 2007

The Parish Pastoral Council Meeting was called to order by Bob Burge on Wednesday, March 21, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Father James Glass, Carl Barrafato, Charlene Bechely, Bob Burge, Siobhan Dunnavant, Jeff Hamm, Scott Luxton, John McCulla, Chris Palumbo, Michael Siewers, Mary Martha Thedieck

Absent: Christian Barrett, Michael Kehoe, Denyelle Mehfoud

Michael Siewers provided the opening prayer.

Pulse of the Parish

- Women's Ministry, the newly formed faith-oriented committee, has initial plans to reach out to parishioners in areas such as bereavement and hospitality, adding programs each year as needed
- Favorable comments are being heard for the upcoming *Moon Dance* social
- St. Bridget's School is conducting standardized testing this week
- Caritas Men's Retreat was very successful
- Knights of Columbus parish chapter is seeking additional members and an announcement will be placed in the bulletin
- With all the committees being formed to further the spirit of community within our parish, council gave credit to Monsignor Carr and Father Glass for their support

Approval of Minutes – February 21, 2007 minutes were approved.

## Stewardship Report

The stewardship committee forwarded a copy of the 2007 Pledge and 2006 Offertory Statistics as of 3/11/07 for council review. A phone solicitation program is being considered to encourage contributions.

At this time Michael Kehoe joined the meeting.

Bob asked if any council member would be interested in joining the subcommittee being formed to assist and design the quarterly communication to be mailed to parishioners relating to the financial status of our parish.

## We Walk By Faith Report

Bob reminded council of Bishop DiLorenzo's visit Sunday, June 17<sup>th</sup>. Prior to this visit, the Diocese has requested an assessment be provided of what is available to our parishioners. Bob asked council to choose one Sunday afternoon where members would meet to compile data to complete this submission.

## Building Committee Update

John gave the following update:

- On the school project, a kickoff meeting was held March 8<sup>th</sup> to initiate work on the more detailed design of changes, a four to five month project
- A school project subcommittee to the overall building committee has been formed. Anne Carroll is the 'customer', Diane Linderman is the project manager. Scott Luxton is participating as the liaison from a parish council and finance council standpoint
- On the church effort, a meeting was held with the Kerns Group February 28<sup>th</sup> to further discuss options related to the church, commons, and parish offices. The committee is in the stage of questioning certain changes because of the significance of structural impacts

- Cost information is not yet available, though there is every expectation this project will be quite significant, and options will need to be evaluated before proceeding
- The building committee has begun to map out the summary elements of a Master Plan that incorporate all key elements of the building strategy. These elements will become the building blocks for the overall program in the future. The overall Master Plan must address our full parish needs and desires for our facilities, campus, and capabilities. Developing this view will require us to think long-term on all fronts, and then sort out what we do based on priorities and costs
- The committee continues to move toward alignment of the school project, church and parish changes, and our capital campaign. Timing of a capital campaign is still open

A lengthy discussion followed on the goals of the project along with review of the comprehensive outline prepared by John and his committee of the Building and Grounds Master Plan elements.

After discussion, it was suggested a short summary might be helpful should questions arise by parishioners on the committee's progress to date. Bob will ensure council is notified of the next building committee meeting.

Parish Staffing Report – Tabled to the April 18<sup>th</sup> meeting

### Parish Life

Michael noted that *Alpha* will have a Retreat the end of this month at the Abbey. Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup> is *Alpha*'s celebration dinner, the final meeting of the first session, and council is encouraged to attend and bring a friend. The program has been very successful and the committee looks forward to the next session.

Parish Community – No Report

### Parish Announcements

- ❖ Volunteer sign up sheets are available for the *Moon Dance* on April 28<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-10:00 p.m.

- ❖ Next parish council meeting will be April 18<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ Finance council meeting will be April 26<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ Knights of Columbus Chapter meets the fourth Thursday of each month
- ❖ Men's Ministry meets the first Saturday of each month at 6:45 a.m.
- ❖ A suggestion box is now available and Monsignor Carr requested council manage it; perhaps three members could work on this project
- ❖ Election process for new council members was noted; the election takes place the third week of May
- ❖ A prayer emailed on a daily basis is a new form of providing meditation and might be something to consider

Carl gave the closing prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Submitted by  
Jeanie Robinson  
Recording Secretary

MINUTES  
St. Bridget Church  
Parish Pastoral Council Meeting  
April 18, 2007

The Parish Pastoral Council Meeting was called to order by John McCulla on Wednesday, April 18, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Monsignor Carr, Christian Barrett, Siobhan Dunnavant, Scott Luxton, Michael Kehoe, John McCulla, Chris Palumbo, Michael Siewers, Mary Martha Thedieck

Absent: Carl Barrafato, Charlene Bechely, Bob Burge, Jeff Hamm, Denyelle Mehfoud

Siobhan provided the opening prayer, with members joining in remembrance of those involved in the Virginia Tech tragedy.

Approval of Minutes – March 21, 2007 minutes were approved

Pulse of the Parish

- Altar Easter flowers were beautifully arranged and council appreciated the efforts of Mary Martha and her helpers
- Parishioners are looking forward to the upcoming *Moon Dance* parish social to be held Saturday, April 28, 2007

Stewardship Report

The stewardship committee has two on-going projects: a) telephone solicitation manned by parish volunteers to encourage contributions, and b) follow-up letters to those families who have yet to pledge.

At this time Jeff Hamm joined the meeting.

We Walk By Faith Report

Chris noted that Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup> is the date council and other parish leadership will meet for a brain storming session in response to the

Archbishop's request for a report detailing areas of support currently offered our parishioners. The report would be submitted prior to the Archbishop's visit on Sunday, June 17<sup>th</sup>.

### Building Report

John provided a brief update noting plans are progressing well for proposed renovations to the school.

An upcoming focus session is planned with the Kerns Group to firm up master plan details briefly noted at the March council meeting.

The committee is also at the point of identifying the process for interviewing construction companies.

Discussion followed on the priorities of the project, and the areas being considered for renovation (school/commons area/church).

John will see if the project architect is available to attend a future council meeting to walk through the master plan and answer any questions from council.

As noted from the very beginning, Monsignor Carr is committed to improving the school first and foremost.

### Parish Staffing Report

Monsignor Carr will be interviewing the second applicant for the Catholic Campus Ministry position

Theresa Lee's position will go full time mid-May with responsibilities for the School of Religion, including the Confirmation program

Paul Armheim is our new Human Concerns Minister and will start on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Father Renninger will move from the Cathedral to our parish rectory in June, and a seminarian intern will be joining us for the summer. Father Thomas Buckley will again be spending his sabbatical with us from September to December.

At this time Father James joined the meeting.

### Parish Life

Michael Siewers reminded members of the *Alpha* project celebration dinner to be held May 8<sup>th</sup>, and encouraged members to attend and consider others who might be interested in signing up for the next *Alpha* session to be held in the fall.

As noted previously, Michael encouraged council to be thinking of someone to take over the Young Adult Ministry, which he has served on for the last ten years. Some comments and responses from the Age 35 and Younger Group from the recent St. Bridget survey were distributed for council's information. The Young Adult Ministry focuses on faith, fun, and community awareness.

### Parish Community

Siobhan reported that the Women's Ministry has generated a lot of enthusiasm as it relates to social activities within the parish. Wednesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> is the next meeting.

### Parish Council Elections

Council elections will be held the end of May, with four members to be elected. Monsignor Carr will check the timeframe and further information will be emailed to council.

### Parish Announcements

- ❖ Siobhan and Michael Kehoe will represent council on the sub-committee formed to compile the quarterly financial report to be sent to parishioners
- ❖ Parish email is in process and Hilary is working to provide information to our parishioners
- ❖ Suggestion box is in use and council will respond promptly to any queries

- ❖ Parish fundraiser the *Irish Tenor* (Anthony Kearns) will be held October 24 & 26, 2007 - John McCulla is chairing this committee and details will be provided at the next meeting
- ❖ 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St. Bridget parish is next year and a committee will be set up at the next meeting

Jeff gave the closing prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Submitted by  
Jeanie Robinson  
Recording Secretary