

Parish Pastoral Council  
Tuesday, April 13, 2010  
Meeting Notes

Present:

Fr John Hennessey  
Paul Aichele  
Paula Boll  
Roland Catherall  
Jim Connell  
Michael Harrison  
John Jurecko  
Russ Lehocky  
Gerrie Neville  
Randy Nipper  
Ann Oakley  
Ted Polk  
Gerry Salzman  
Sue Zimmer  
Bill Zorc  
Rena Calanca

Michael Harrison began our gathering by Breaking Open the Word with Bill Zorc. A brief time of reflection followed. Ted Polk reported that Russ Lehocky, Gerrie Neville, Sue Zimmer, and Bill Zorc had confirmed that their term of service on PPC would end this June.

Fr John asked for prayer for his sister, Carol Hennessey Porter, who is struggling mightily with cancer. He then mentioned that he has been getting numerous requests for “air time” during our weekend liturgies and is concerned about how this may be affecting our worship time together. We brainstormed some potential methods of communication which would be effective but not disruptive to the prayer of the community, including the possibility of the use of a digital board.

Roland gave us an update on the activities of the Task Force: last week, two sessions of “Joe! Study” focus groups were held with folks from Religious Education, and there are plans for a focus group with SAC soon. There will also be three focus group sessions held on April 27. This is with the intention of gleaning more data for our parish. The Task Force is also considering the possibility of administering a mini-survey to the entire parish after these focus groups have been concluded. The Task Force leadership team, (Roland Catherall, Dr Kevin Murphy, Kathleen O’Connor, Joe Newman, Jennifer Kolber, and Ann Oakley) is in conversation with the Stewardship Commission as to when to launch the Strength Finders piece of our process. Roland has also talked with Pat Lynch and our priests about emphasizing the notion of “community” in the homilies in the coming weeks. This theme is fundamental to “Growing an Engaged Parish.” The next Task Force meeting is tomorrow night. Roland will let us know what needs we might be able to help with.

Russ gave an update on the Stewardship of Talent and their plans for inviting parishioners to use their strengths and gifts in an active way through one of the many ministry opportunities here at St. Joe’s.

Ted read a recap of the characteristics of an effective PPC member that we as a group brainstormed on our February 27 Day of Renewal. While there was some consensus on these characteristics, it is still not clear how we will determine the composition of the PPC for the coming year and how we will document that process for future PPC groups to use as a guide, if they so choose. Conversation

ensued on how to formulate a selection process for new members as well as a discernment process to help us affirm an active role for each PPC member, including the leadership team, the commission liaisons, spiritual companions, and others. Fr Hennessey expressed a desire to have some of us work on formulating this process. We would like to have this process in place before the summer.

The Human Concerns Commission is invited to talk with us in May and the Parish Life Commission is invited to talk with us in June. We will continue to invite representatives from the other commissions to join us at our meetings to hear how they are doing and to find out how we can best support them.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rena Calanca