

**St. Francis de Sales Pastoral Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**October 25, 2011**

**Attendees:** Van Christ, Sylvia Brooks, Charles Duke, Pat Martin, Mary Ann Palmer, Bob Roddy, Betty Solomon, Chris Wilson , Jim Wilson, Fr. Chuck, Rob Hardy, Christina Minkler, Gene Foley,

**Absent:** Mary Ann Palmer, Daniel Velez, Carolyn Webster

**Guest/New Council Members:** None.

**Opening Prayer:** Campaign Prayer was said by all.

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes Approved.

**Pastor's Comments:** Fr. Chuck reported.

They are still working out the kinks in the HVAC system and the control system.

The Stone Chapel's tower is being repaired next week; the contractor is coming out to repair bell tower. We have moved back into chapel for daily mass this week; we believe that we will still have morning mass even with the work going on in the chapel, since most of the work will be done outside. The contractor will need five consecutive business days to complete the work. The repairs for the Worship Center will begin once the Stone Chapel is completed; we are hopeful that the repairs will be complete by Christmas.

The capital campaign has raised 25%. We are moving into Special Gifts phase; the mailing goes out this week. The general mailing goes out next week. Please respond and be generous if you are called; phases take several weeks, which are broken down into structured events.

Deacon Alex called to let Father know that Danny Velez has taken on a part time job at night and will not be able to serve on the Council. Danny was elected, so the bylaws say that we take the next person with the most amounts of votes. There were only three on the ballot and they were all elected. Therefore, we will appoint someone from the Spanish Community, since no one was else was on the ballot.

**Ministry Reports:**

**Service:** Carolyn Webster was absent. Christina Minkler reported.

- Blood Drive
  - The blood drive was such a success; the team enjoyed working with St Francis de Sales that another Blood drive will be held in February.
  - The blood bank is very short on supply and all donations are welcomed and touch many lives.

- The Red Cross is very anxious to come back to our parish.
  - What a nice compliment.
- Homeless Shelter
    - The homeless shelter is getting a new administrator this month.
    - Deacon Jim will be meeting with them next Thursday. No changes are expected.
    - Our parish does the lunches on November 20<sup>th</sup>.
    - This is fun; sandwiches, fruit cups juice, snacks, and dessert cakes go into the bags.
    - Every night some organization in Harford County makes these lunches to go.
    - Anyone interested in helping contact Rose & Gerry Pollis.
- Sharing table
    - Ken Malecki is looking forward to the Sharing Table at Prince of Peace in Edgewood.
    - Anyone interested can call him for more information.
      - Ken's phone is 410 515 3735
- St. Vincent de Paul
    - A spiritual journey seminar was held Saturday October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9am starting with prayers in church, then progressing to Kilduff Hall with a continental breakfast and study of St Vincent de Paul society mission and what it means to be a Vincentian.
      - We have members from neighboring parishes of St. Mark's and St. Joan of Arc attending. It is always a pleasant informative morning.
    - The Ladies of Knights will deliver Thanksgiving bag items periodically to the parish; the bags will then be made accordingly.
    - The Knights and Ladies have donated \$1,800.00 for gift cards to be split for Thanksgiving and Christmas bags.
      - All these donations are sincerely welcomed and makes for a warm wonderful Thanksgiving & Christmas meal.
    - On Saturday December 17th, a Christmas party for the SVdP client's children, which will be held from 12 PM – 2 PM.
      - The youth group & JIF are always a big help with set up and activities, which include face painting games and helping children.
      - There will be hotdogs, soda, chips, cookies and SANTA will be available to distribute small gifts for young children.
      - Again, the parents will go to Knights Hall to choose gifts for their children and the children will have a chance to pick out a small gift for their parents in main hall. This went very well last year.
      - The announcement went out for the box to be in back of the church for the new gift, hats mittens, gloves, and scarves.
      - They are asking not to have any stuffed animals. We will also collect small appropriate items for Moms and Dads from children. There will be a box by the poor box to collect gift cards for holidays.
    - The weekly donations have resumed to a grand level and all donations are appreciated.
    - SVdP did see 50 clients last Thursday, as the center was closed for the retreat.

- October SVdP
  - Clients - 179; Food bags - 180; Assistance - \$2,440.00

The Daily Bread casseroles were down over the summer months, but now have increased and with cooler weather families back home and holidays a great return is expected as usual. It is easy and fun to make.

Haiti ministry will be having a gala end of November to help those in need of medical attention, school supplies, and all the countrymen need to survive. This will be a \$100.00/plate dinner. Since no one is able to attend, we will send a large of specially donated goods to be auctioned at the dinner.

Thank you all for the generous gift of self and goods, money and support to all of the ministries.

**Liturgy:** Sylvia Brooks reported.

- Started on the music for the changes to Roman missal and the liturgical changes
- Father Chuck decided that there will be the usual masses for Christmas Eve and for Christmas 9:00am and 11:00am masses.
- The December 31<sup>st</sup>/January 1<sup>st</sup> weekend is a normal mass schedule.
- Sent out Advent schedule in the mailing
- November 1<sup>st</sup> is All Saints Day; a holy day of obligation

**Parish Life:** Rob Hardy reported.

- Boy Scouts
  - The Boy Scouts have a rock climbing trip on October 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>; they will be having a sports shooting weekend November 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>.
- Cub Scouts
  - The Cub Scouts will be going on a trip to the Naval Academy on November 5<sup>th</sup>.
- "Fun" Raising Committee
  - Bingo is on the 2nd and 4th Friday of the month. Attendance has been hovering around 100 people per bingo and revenue is down approximately 2%.
  - The Craft Bazaar is November 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>.
  - The Bull and Oyster Roast was October 15<sup>th</sup>.
    - The event was well attended and raised over \$2300 for the parish.
    - Many thanks to the Shannahans and all the volunteers that helped put on the event.
- Knights of Columbus
  - The traveling crucifix is still making its rounds through the Knights of Columbus.
  - The Knights will host the Kids Christmas Party on December 10<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM – 3 PM in Kilduff Hall.
    - More information can be found at [www.kofc11372.org](http://www.kofc11372.org).

- K of C Ladies Auxiliary
  - The Ladies Auxiliary is still selling a recipe book for the low price of \$10 or 3 for \$25.
  - The proceeds from the 300-club raffle brought in \$1000 towards the building fund.
  - The Ladies are still active in their program to keep in touch with youth after they leave for college.
- Donut Social Sunday
  - The next donut social is scheduled for November 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Seniors Social
  - The seniors will be hosting a group of kids that are coming to trick or treat during their October 31<sup>st</sup> meeting.

**Education:** Mary Ann Palmer was absent. Jim Wilson reported.

- Elementary Faith Formation
  - The numbers are down on average 9% (50 students across the board) for this year compared to last year.
    - We are down 11% in grades K-5, down 20% in grades 6-8 and up 6% in Confirmation!
    - I believe this trend is on par with what is going on in the surrounding schools, indicating a community shift in population.
  - This week, October 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>, grade 5 will be performing Bible Stories for grades K-4.
- Upcoming Events
  - Keep Christ in Christmas Poster contest kicks off November 7-9th.
- Home Study
- Upcoming Events
  - December 4<sup>th</sup>'s Home study quarterly meeting will be on the topic of the Roman Missal. Barry Zavislan will be our presenter.

**Youth:** Chris Wilson reported.

- Youth Ministry
  - Ravens Raffle is doing very well, only 30 tickets left
    - See Diane for tickets!!
  - October 7th Dinner Bingo was a huge success!
    - Last minute ticket sales pushed attendance to 160
    - \$3200 in profits were realized
  - All youth attending NCYC have been able to fund raise their conference fee of \$580 via Raven's Raffle, 300 raffle(last spring), Dingo or parish donations!!!

- Upcoming Events
- October 29th Trunk or Treat
  - 7:00pm Gathering/opening prayer
  - 7:20pm Costume contest
  - 7:30pm Spooky fun and games in Kilduff Hall, Boo Barn in KC Hall, Haunted Trails open
  - 7:45-8:30pm trunk or treat in parking lot
  - 9pm event ends!!
- Preschool kids are coming to see the Seniors at Kilduff Hall on Monday for Halloween in their costumes

***Stewardship:*** Jim Wilson reported.

- Maintenance
  - Damage to ceiling in the Stone Chapel that was caused by the hurricane has been repaired
  - The Stone Chapel is now open again, though the Bell Tower is being blocked off, but the contractor will be coming Monday to fix bell tower
  - The Bell Tower repair is still awaiting clearance from the Archdiocese.
  - Next Main.Committee Meeting is on 11/2
- Finance Committee
  - Quarter 1 results were reviewed by the Finance Committee at their last meeting
    - Collections and expenditures are proceeding as planned and are right on target with the budget
  - The committee will watch income closely as the capital campaign is now widespread
  - Normally, send out the annual report in the mail
    - This year, decided to stuff it in the bulletin and put it on the website
  - The next meeting is in January
- Development Committee
  - A large number of parishioners are being asked to assist in our next Campaign phase
  - The next phase is a special phase where a group of 20 talks to 50 or 60 families
  - An orientation meeting is being held this Thursday to introduce volunteers
  - Training sessions will begin next week

***Latino Community:*** Danny Vélez was absent. No report provided.

***Evangelization / Connections:*** Gene Foley reported.

- Baptism follow-up continues with mailings
  - Started follow-up with the first group of families that have passed the one year mark
- Added a handful more people to the committee
- Next meeting is November 13th between the 9 AM and 11 AM mass

***Good of the council:***

After the capital campaign is completed, Betty was wondering if we could raise additional funds for the master plan with bonds. Most of us agreed that it was worth exploring further.

Charles asked how many people are registered with the Church. Father Chuck stated that just about 2,500 families are registered, which equates to 8,000 people. Father Chuck stated that the Campaign mailings help SFDS to clean up the database.

***Council Corner:***

- This month, St. Vincent de Paul Society served 179 clients, distributed 180 bags of food, and gave \$2440.00 to our clients for utility bills. Without the generosity of our parishioners, this could not have been accomplished.
- The Stone Chapel tower was scheduled to be repaired the week of October 31. Upon completion of the tower, the dome above the altar in the Worship Center will be repaired followed by the tear in the ceiling. The Worship Center repairs should be complete by Christmas.
- Special thanks go out to the Shannahans and all the volunteers who helped make the Bull Roast a smashing success.
- A lot of hard work and wildly successful dinner bingo has allowed twelve youth and three adults to attend the National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) fully paid.

***Closing prayer: Jim Wilson***

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Minkler  
Secretary