

**Minutes**  
**St. Rita Parish Pastoral Council**  
**May 16, 2011**

**Attendees:**

Tom Bayer	Eileen Scott	Fr. Bart Amobi
Sr. Katherine Ann	Stephen Padgett	Drew Desmarais
Ray Garbach	Fr. Chuck Latus	Diane Cocilova
Kathleen Anne	Dawn Waver	Joe Holleran
Gerry Sander	Emily Topping	Patty Janiak

<b>Absent:</b> Joe DiDia	Jim Messineo	Bill Ginster
	Ray Smith	

**Excused:** Mary Jo Hohl

**Opening Prayer:** Ray Garbach

**Reading of Vision Statement from State of Parish Report:** *To nurture and grow the spiritual vitality of each and every Saint Rita parishioner and support them along their life journey as Disciples of Christ while fostering a vibrant, engaging, welcoming faith community.*

**Confirmation of March minutes:** Minutes were approved with no changes.

**2011 PPC Nomination and Selection:**

On Pentecost we will select new PPC members – 2 woman, 2 men and 2 youth. A notice was put in the Bulletin to solicit nominations and there will be in-pew nomination forms available the weekend of 5/21. A poster notice has been placed in the gathering area. An announcement will be made at the weekend Masses 5/21-22. Joe Holleran offered to take care of this again this year. There will be an info meeting for the nominees and any interested parishioners on Sunday 6/5 after the 10:30 Mass in room 5.

**Fiesta Update: Tom Cali**

The 57<sup>th</sup> annual Fiesta will be held Fri. and Sat. June 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>. Tithing will be made to Mary's Place (a Burmese immigrant outreach at the Cathedral Community). We expect to have a number of the refugees onsite during the Fiesta volunteering and promoting Mary's Place.

About 75% of the volunteers needed has been met for the event, corporate sponsorship is just slightly down from 2010 and Spectacular Raffle ticket sales are down considerably from last year but expect on-site sales during the Fiesta to bring those numbers up. Automated phone calls will be made to a targeted number of households to encourage attendance and participation at the Fiesta and for the Spectacular Raffle. Announcements will be made before Masses and a table set up in the gathering space to encourage raffle ticket sales.

In the future our challenge is to solicit more corporate partnership – consider companies that we do business with and request sponsorship monies or in-kind

gifts. We can offer businesses advertisement on-site at the Fiesta and in a flyer placed in the Democrat and Chronicle that reaches more than 26,000 homes. On another note, parking will be altered next year at the Armory as a federal law goes into effect to prevent parking too close to the Armory buildings.

### **St Rita School Update:**

Sr. Katherine Ann reports 356 students are registered for the school next year K-6<sup>th</sup> grade. This is the most of any school in the diocese.

Joan Sullivan, School Business Manager, has submitted a balanced budget for the school which exceeds expectations.

The Blue and Gold Gala was held 4/1 at Holy Trinity Murphy Hall. Turnout was comparable to last year but expenses were up over 2010. Final numbers are not available yet but estimated to be approximately \$27,000.

### **Evangelization Update:**

#### **WPCC Update:**

Gerry Sander reported on the first Evangelization meeting of the WPCC group. This gathering was also attended by Tom Bayer and Diane Cocilova. It was generally a brainstorming and introductory meeting discussing why Mass attendance is down and what do we love about the Catholic Church and how do we promote it. Suggestions ranged from a “welcome back” event at each parish to gatherings at a more neutral site or programs such as “Theology on Tap” or “Catholics Come Home”. We are encouraged to check out the [catholicscomehome.org](http://catholicscomehome.org) website to see the commercials that have been produced and other evangelization information there.

#### **Breakfast Guests:**

It has been reported that at least 10 breakfast coupons have been redeemed.

#### **PPC Fiesta Presence:**

Tom reported on a meeting that was held in April with him, Mary Jo, Kathleen, Diane and Eileen. We will have a table at the Fiesta either in the gym or under the tent with parish literature/brochures that were gleaned from the welcoming packet and some basic informational materials on Catholicism that Diane got from the Catholic.com website. Mary Jo sought to involve our school children and youth by making up cards that invited the child to complete the sentence “what I like about St Rita’s” and on the reverse side “God is my lifesaver” and attach a candy lifesaver. About 250 of these cards were completed. Kathleen suggested a bookmark and Eileen produced one and will print those up to give out at the table as well. Mary Jo DiNoto provided pictures on DVD which represents many of our ministries in the Parish shown at the table.

A volunteer schedule to man the table during the Fiesta was sent around the table and Tom will follow this up with an email to all.

### **Finance Update: Mark Yaeger**

Mark presented the budget summary for the Parish budget year 2011-12 which is essentially break-even as it has been the previous two years. The School budget, as reported earlier, is also expected to be balanced. The Parish has a 1.2 million dollar budget and the School has a 1.8 million dollar budget.

Some highlights of Mark's presentation were:

\*revenues are projected to be the same as previous years

\*the parish has done a good job of controlling expenses

\*the mortgage has been paid off with proceeds of the land sales and parishioner gifts

\*we would like to keep \$100,000 in the bank for major Church projects and School subsidies. We will have funds left over from the Church enhancement project from major donors and Partners in Faith.

\*we have an \$8,000 deficit from the CMA campaign which will come out of Parish operating funds. Fr. Chuck suggested that we may have a second collection later this summer to help offset this deficit. In the future the CMA goal needs to be reviewed and adjusted for our changing budget requirements for the Parish and School.

**Pastor's Report:**

Fr. Chuck highlighted events coming up for the St. Rita Society, the Ministerium gathering of all Diocesan ministers on May 24 and the retreat for our Priests the week of June 6<sup>th</sup>.

**New Roman Missal:**

Fr. Chuck reported that at the Convocation held recently for all priests and pastoral administrators of our diocese the focus was on the New Roman Missal with a presentation given by Fr. Paul Turner.

The new translation pertains to the words we speak or sing at every Mass and to the prayers that the priest recites alone from the Sacramentary, to be referred to as *The Roman Missal*. The new translation is meant to be a more literal and true translation of the Latin. As time goes on more information will be shared with the parishioners in the bulletin, on our website and in DVD presentations.

**Brainstorm: PPC Priorities 2011-2012**

What should the Council's focus be for next year?

\*Evangelization is an on-going interest.

\*Next Fall the council will be interviewed in anticipation of the selection of a new Pastor when Fr. Chuck retires.

\*Youth Group – Emily reported on the success of the “moving up” event and notes that new this year will be summer meetings for the youth.

\*At our next meeting, June 20<sup>th</sup>, we will be welcoming the new PPC members and saying farewell to the retiring members. Retiring members are reminded to bring in their notebooks to pass on to the new members.

**Closing Prayer:** Ray Garbach

**Next Meeting:** Monday, June 20 7:00pm Rm. #1

**Respectfully Submitted by:** Eileen Scott