

# ST. THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

## MEETING MINUTES

April 15, 2008 7:00pm Parish Conference Room

### 1) ATTENDANCE

#### **Present**

Members:

Mjr. Kieran Kealty

Jerry Briner (president)

Nathan Cottrell

Maria Herrera-Bill

Ed Lavin

Jahn Trombley

Grizelle Apodaca

Steve Stephens

Lory Charnetsky

### 2) OPENING PRAYER

Jahn Trombley – opening prayer

### 3) APPROVAL OF OLD MINUTES

Grizelle requested to correct the last minutes, adding her name to the present list.

Approved unanimously

### 4) LITURGICAL THEME FOR 2008

Jerry initiated a round table of ideas (person by person) for the 2008 theme

- Grizelle: “Holy Family”
  - Emphasize each member of the Holy Family.
- Nate: “Holy Family”
  - Emphasize the relationship between the Holy Family and today’s family unit.
- Jahn: “Holy Family”
  - “Virgin Mary” or “The Holy Spirit” as possible alternates
  - The parish needs examples of catechetical teachings.

- The Holy Family would be the broadest theme, covering the most topics
- The topics should take cultural issues into account
- The topics should be cross generational – bring the family together
- Ed: “The Family”
  - The theme should discuss how to:
    - improve parenting
    - lack of spirituality (i.e. children not going to mass)
    - marriage counseling
  - The events should be able to attract members from a variety of racial/cultural backgrounds
- Mjr. Kealty: no name suggestion
  - The theme should address:
    - How to reach and motivate youths
    - Give families a reason to come back to church
- Stephen: “The Holy Family”
  - There needs to be more emphasis on the teachings about the Holy Family
  - History of the Holy Family
  - Relate common current day problems to those encountered by Joseph and Mary.
- Maria: “The Year of the Liturgy” or “Year of the Word”
  - Theme should discuss how we pray as a community
  - Teachings referenced through the readings from mass, homilies, etc.
  - (a copy of more ideas from Maria is attached at the end of these minutes)
  - The activities could include recruitment or letters/surveys to registered members that don’t frequently attend mass. It could apply a T.Q.M. (total quality management) philosophy.
- Jerry: “The Family”
  - It can be broken down into many smaller sub-categories for discussion.
  - Could include an emphasis on youth bible studies
  - Discuss parenting methods
  - Last year’s theme “The Eucharist” (One Body of Christ) ties well with “One Family”
  - The activities could focus on faith and tradition as the parts of religion
- Lory: “The Virgin”
  - Include special processions to Mary
  - Additional events at special times of the year that focus on Mary

5) OTHER BUSINESS

- Mjr. Kieran is moving – the next meeting will be his last. He has selected and is talking with a potential replacement from the base.
- The parish fiscal year ends in July. A nominating committee will need to be put together to nominate the leaders of the council.
- East Coast pot-luck is on May 4<sup>th</sup>.
  - Ed will not be there, Jerry will be helping out.
- June 7<sup>th</sup> – ordination here at S.T.A.

6) SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled meeting will be Tuesday, May 13th, 2008. 7:00pm. Parish Conference Room.

7) CLOSING PRAYER

Jerry offered the closing prayer.

Adjournment.