

# Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish

## Minutes of Pastoral Council Meeting on February 21, 2009

Attending: Michelle Anderson, Father Bill Breslin, James Cavanagh, Melissa Haapala, Pam Jackimiec, Joe Kubler, Tommy Lorden, Randy Middleton, Pat Palaich, Neil Schiffhauer

The meeting was called to order by Father Bill at about 9:15 am.

Father Bill opened with a prayer, then proceeded to explain that he needed the Pastoral Council to become more active and focused on proposed and on-going parish undertakings. The objective for this and the next 2 or 3 council meetings will be to reformulate the business of the council in order to provide effective decision making and oversight to steer the parish in its major endeavors.

Randy Middleton has agreed to join the Pastoral Council. He is a valuable resource who will bring much needed continuity with the prior parish re-organization and re-structuring efforts.

Trust between the various councils, committees and Father Bill must be enhanced and maintained in order for the success of the parish.

During this reformulation process we will be guided by techniques and information that Fr. Bill had obtained at previous pastoral training sessions.

Members of the council shared with the group some significant cultural changes that they experienced during their lives and the positive effects those changes brought to them, their families or their communities.

We began to work through the "Formation - Session 1" workbook that Fr. Bill provided. The first task was to list some 'organizational sticking points' and 'top pastoral challenges' faced by SHJ. (See lists at end of these minutes)

We continued through section 1.4 engaging in much discussion and revelation.

As the meeting came to a close, we took on the action to complete sections 1.5 – 1.8 of the workbook and to read the pamphlet on 'structuring effective meetings' prior to the next meeting on Tuesday 2/24/09, 4:00 – 6:00 pm in the parish center conference room.

For the month ahead, the goals are to establish a council agenda that is 'vision inspired', 'problem solving' and 'developmental'.

During this reformulation effort, the council must continue to be involved in the ongoing efforts and concerns of the parish.

The next full day meeting is scheduled for Saturday March 7, 2009 from 8:00 am – 4:00 pm in the parish center conference room.

Fr. Bill closed the meeting at 12:00 pm with a prayer.

### ORGANIZATIONAL STICKING POINTS

Ill-identified priorities

Organization chart – decision making process?

Find out tasks of each subgroup

Fragmentation

Financial control

Follow through

Lack of volunteer appreciation & recognition

Matching volunteers with parish needs

Communication - across the board - right communication channels?

Lack of staff - especially core staff

Culture of inaction

Organizational lack of connection between church and school

Getting everyone to work together

Prioritize service to the poor - not just in terms of \$\$

### TOP PASTORAL CHALLENGES

Lack of clear purpose

Attracting more young families and youth

More active presence in Boulder

Resources to implement

Outdated space utilization

Poorly catechized population

Getting faith commitment

Parishioner Involvement

School enrollment

Increasing faith

Sense of community between church & school

Eliminate tension between church & school

Evangelization: bringing others to Christ

Offer resources for spiritual growth

Seeing school as an investment in the future

People in the pews don't know their role

Lack of purpose  
Factionalism  
Sustainability  
Sense of mission  
Entitlement  
Evangelize  
Donations (\$)  
Better understanding of liturgy  
Bond with Hispanic congregation