



St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church



## Parish Pastoral Council

### Meeting Minutes

April 10, 2007

6:00pm

The meeting was opened with Father Dennis leading us in Evening Prayer and Faith Sharing. After Evening Prayer the meeting began with Steve Rhodes noting there was not an agenda for this meeting. He wanted to present an idea to the council, stemming from our retreat weekend. Steve asked each council member to describe the effectiveness of the Parish Pastoral Council. The answers ranged from “report oriented” to “adversarial” to “disconnected from the parish”. All were in agreement that changes need to be made.

A new council format was agreed upon. From now on, each council member will report on their specific ministries via e-mail on a monthly basis. Issues arising will be discussed if needed then forwarded to the person able to handle the issue immediately. If the issue is too complex to be handled immediately, then the council will take the issue on as a goal to be solved.

The council’s new focus on being goal oriented and effecting positive change within the parish shows a direct correlation to the survey completed in the fall of 2005. Steve Rhodes requested that council members consider being on the current implementation teams so we can have direct communication from the teams to the council, avoiding overlap of effort.

The council began reviewing the notes from the council retreat. The notes from the retreat highlighted the majority of council members believed our most important area of concern was with Stewardship; the giving of parishioner’s time, talent and treasure. As the discussion progressed it was noted that in order to increase the involvement of parishioners, we must build a stronger sense of community. So it was agreed the focus of the pastoral council would be to increase stewardship within the parish with specific emphasis on building a stronger community.

There are many areas of concern regarding stewardship. Often, our weekly offertory collections are not bringing in enough money to cover our parish budget. Additionally, we are preparing to embark on a building project that could cost \$2-3 million dollars. Volunteers within the parish are stretched thin. Our pastor is stretched thin also. In short, more volunteers and money are needed.

At this point, each council member was tasked to e-mail Steve Rhodes before the next meeting with one goal and three objectives for both stewardship and community building. Our next meeting is Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup> in the Parish Hall.