St. Anne’s Pastoral Council Meeting

September 20, 2012

In attendance: Father Brandon, Father Joseph, Father Mario, Father Bill, Annette Murdaca, Joan Cahill, Cheri Evans, Frank Flores, Cristiana Herrera, Juan Herrera, Ben Huerta, Glenn Lewis, Anna Molina, Saul Molina, Jose Ordaz, Jesus Perez

The meeting opened with Adoration, Evening Prayer, and Benediction in the chapel.

The meeting began with an introduction of all members in attendance as everyone is still getting to know each other since the addition of new members. This was followed by a brief reminder from our Chairperson, Annette, regarding the confidentiality of meeting content in light of the open forum of honesty that takes place during brainstorming and sharing of our parish concerns.

It was with great pleasure that both Annette and Fr. Brandon after much prayer and discernment announced their nomination of Glenn Lewis to serve as the new Vice-Chair Person of the Pastoral Council. Glenn humbly accepted and all members joyfully expressed to him their approval and gratitude.

The business part of the meeting began with the approval of the August meeting minutes as written.

Committee Reports:

Finance Council Report: Tom Driscoll was unable to attend the meeting and give a report.

Petal Ministry Report: Donna Dominguez was unable to attend the meeting and give a report, however Joan Cahill was able to report the successful results of the Liturgy Petal’s Ministry Weekend held this past weekend of Sunday, September 16th at all the Masses. Approximately 75 parishioners signed up to either join or inquire about a ministry. Joan expressed that it was emphasized to the various ministry representatives the importance of contacting within a few days of the event those that signed up. She also expressed the positive feedback that she had
heard from parishioners with regard to the banners and in particular, the commentator’s brief description of each ministry in the Liturgy Petal. The suggestion was then made that on the Ministry Weekends, that both the banners of the previous ministries presented as well as the one being introduced, be displayed on the walls of the church, eventually leading to all of the banners being displayed every third Sunday. The Parish Business Directory was also brought up during this discussion as it was available in the vestibule on this weekend for parishioners to pick up a copy. Annette stressed the value of soliciting our parishioners’ local businesses from the standpoint of building and supporting our Catholic community. She then expressed that we take the directories back to our Petal ministries and she offered to get copies to all of us for this purpose. In addition, she suggested that copies should also be available at the school for parents to obtain as well as they should be made available at the upcoming Harvest Fair. Annette also expressed the desire to expand the directory but that we need to get the first publication out before we can proceed with another.

Thornton Petal Ministry Report: Laura Sandoval was unable to attend the meeting and give a report.

Pastor’s Report: Fr. Brandon

- Street Closure Update – hope to have approval from the City of Lodi by the end of this year; next Design Committee meeting is Saturday, 9/21/12; both Bishop Blair and Fr. Ryan have given their approval of the project.
- Pastoral Plan – Mr. Maricle will be assisting St. Anne’s with the development of a 5 year plan (vision and road map) for existing and new leadership to follow; he will be meeting 10/9 with his committee of St. Anne’s parishioners to develop a parishioner survey to be distributed in the future to enable parishioners to express their wants and needs from St. Anne’s and where they hope to see the parish in the next 5 years; Fr. Brandon hopes that Mr. Maricle will be able to attend our October meeting.
- Homeless Mothers Drop In Center – has been named, Annie’s Arbor; still the collaborative efforts of Catholic Charities, the Salvation Army, and St. Vincent De Paul; Catholic Charities is currently making sure the facility meets the appropriate building and safety codes to be operational.
• Catholic Charities – currently conducting a 10-week parenting series in Spanish on Thursday evenings at St. Anne’s School; hope to conduct a series in English in the future.

• Name Tag Sunday – thanks was expressed to Joan Cahill for organizing the participation at each Mass of the council members; for most of the English Masses with the exception of 10:30, the Greeters Ministry appears to be manning all of the doors to the church; the Spanish Masses need assistance at the side doors; it was suggested that the ushers at all of the Masses be enlisted to help the greeters cover the doors by distributing name tags to parishioners as they come in and that this should be brought up at the next Petal Meeting; the use of markers instead of pens was also suggested to improve the visibility of names and also to encourage the greeter to write the parishioner’s name to improve the size and legibility of the name; council members were asked to simply oversee the event, make sure the greeters have supplies, and to circulate throughout the church insuring all parishioners have name tags; the celebrant at each Mass needs to incorporate parishioners “meeting their neighbors” either before or after their homily; Joan has offered to continue to replenish the ushers closet with supplies.

• Catholic Business Directories – was discussed earlier in the meeting.

• Bishop’s Visit – Bishop Blair will be visiting St. Anne’s throughout the month of October. The purpose of his visit is to observe our progress in meeting the Synod Goals; he will not be attending a Pastoral Council meeting but will be attending a few (not many) ministry meetings.

Other Business:

• Roster Update – members in attendance approved the roster update with only one change to the email address of Jose Ordaz; need to add the Parish priests.

• Fr. Mario – in continuing to become familiar with the existing social services available in Lodi and surrounding communities he recently toured Lodi House and Annette will be taking him next to the Salvation Army shelter; Jose has offered to take him around to area nursing homes and assisted living facilities.

• Dinner at the Salvation Army – Annette made known that the SA serves dinner nightly at 5:00PM and that many area churches volunteer one day per month to serve and/or cook the meal; she suggested that this would be
a good social justice ministry for the Pastoral Council to adopt; Cristiana told us about the soup meal that she and other St. Mary’s students provide periodically at the school and indicated the fellowship and simplicity of the preparation involved and that perhaps we could do the same at the SA.

- Catechists – concern was expressed following a situation shared with regard to the qualifications of catechists in order to be able to teach the youth; Fr. Brandon expressed that he contacted Sr. Gloria at the Diocese and that she will be forwarding a more in depth application than what was previously being used at St. Anne’s; he also spoke with Sr. Isabel and she assured him that she has a screening process (interview) in place before someone can become a catechist.

- Pastoral Council Books – Annette asked if everyone had received their copy of the book, *Making Parish Councils Pastoral* and encouraged everyone to read it for its valuable insight into the role of the pastoral council in a parish.

- Parish Priests – appreciation was expressed by the council members to Fr. Joseph, Fr. Mario, and Fr. Bill for taking time out of their busy schedules to attend the meeting. We look forward to their attendance in the future.

The next Pastoral Council meeting will be on October 18, 2012 at 7:00PM.

The meeting ended with prayer.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Cheri Evans.