

# CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

## PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES FOR

### February 17, 2011

John Jacobs called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Msgr. Troncale opened the meeting with a prayer. The following were:

**Present:**, John Jacobs, Raymond Gueret, Mark Schultz, Rob Barranco, Janet Beard, Arleen Alexander, Anne Ceasar (MCPS President), Maureen Neighbors (Holy Spirit liaison to MCPS), Brian Bonikowski

**Excused:** Ron Marcelino, Jim Gatz, Ellie Burden, Harold Dobbs

**Absent:** Linda Anderson

No January minutes to approve.

#### 1. **Montgomery Catholic Preparatory School**

Anne Ceasar, president of MCPS had previously met with the finance council and now met with P.C. to educate us all on the history of Catholic education in Montgomery, as well as the current status of Catholic education in Montgomery. Mark Schultz commented that in the meeting with the finance council, he felt the council was looking for Mrs. Ceasar to tell them that we needed a new school. This was not the purpose of that meeting and neither is it the purpose of this meeting tonight. Ceasar gave the long and history rich story of Catholic schools in Montgomery. Most information a lot of Catholics are not even aware of. Highlights: currently 776 students in the system, the rates are very reasonable compared to other private schools, 30% of the students are NOT Catholic. The cost/student compared to the state : 2007-2008 MCPS – 5,000/students, State of Alabama \$8336/student; 2009-2010 MCPS - \$6100/student. MCPS schools are mission oriented schools.

Father Troncale noted that in 2000 the demographics showed growth moving east toward Holy Spirit church. A study indicated that we would actively need to go after students in this area, not just the students from St. Bede school. Currently 23% of the students at St. Bede are Holy Spirit parishioners.

Maureen Neighbors (H.S. liaison to MCPS) spoke about surveys and “speak-out” sessions that were held over the last 6-9 months to gather information about peoples desires and thoughts about Catholic schools and even some specific questions about a possible new school at Holy Spirit. The results of the survey will really help with decisions on how to keep current schools viable

Mark and Anne both noted that MCPS need to get a better marketing plan to help ALL campuses increase their growth.

#### 2. **Building committee update.**

All final drawings will be presented to city of Montgomery on Feb. 11. Once approved, plan will then go out for bid- bids should be back by March 17. Bids will then be sent to Mobile for approval. Once approved, we can then ask for a contract. Goal is to be complete with total building project by July 2012. Noted that MCPS should begin to rework with finance council to workout a “contract” about who will be paying for what in the new building.

Father Troncale and Mrs. Cesaer are planning on going to the parish councils at all of the other parishes to educate them and the tri-county area on what we are doing at Holy Spirit for the Catholic community as a whole

#### 3. **Representative of Finance committee**

Mark Shultz gave a report from the F.C. Their big concern with the building project is that we do not over build and then not be able to afford our monthly debt reduction payments. Their concern is revenue. We will know a lot more once we get the bids in and will be able to make the most intelligent decisions on going forward with building project. Janet Beard suggested that more information should go out to the parish about how their tithing might be used in helping to pay for the new building which is going to be used by H.S. for religious education in the classrooms, not being used just to house a new school. The school will actually be self sustaining.

#### **4. Revenue Options**

Talk centered around ways to increase revenue at Holy Spirit church. One suggestion was door hangers that invite people to come visit our church, and has the Mass schedule on it. This is in hopes to increase the number of parishioners and thus increase revenue. Possibly even add something about the new school and MCPS.

#### **5. Directory**

Raymond Gueret has done the research and has narrowed the pictorial directory supplier down to two companies. Life Touch and Olen Mills. Costs are about the same. Raymond will finalize all of the information and the P.C. will make an up or down vote at the next meeting.

#### **6. Seating on the west wall**

Question was asked what should be done on the west wall to accommodate more seats. With the exception of Christmas, Easter and the occasional 11:00am Mass, they are not needed. Estimates are that it would only take about 60 chairs to fill in that area. No decisions were made this night about that.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Korean community**

Archbishop Rodi wants to offer the St. Andrews church downtown to the Korean community as their church. So on March 6, 2011 St. Andrews will become a Korean Catholic church. The parish hall/old rectory need repairs. There will also no longer be a Korean Mass at Holy Spirit, however the Koreans can and will continue to use our facilities.

#### **Montgomery Deanery Youth Ministry**

The Archdiocese is closing down on June 30<sup>th</sup> the Montgomery Deanery Youth Ministry and Religious Education office in the Montgomery/Dothan Deanery in an effort to save money for the Archdiocese.

The church office outer wall and slab were cracking. We paid \$5,000.00 to fix it. The problem is now resolved

The next meeting was set for March 17, 2011.

The pastoral council will be handling the meager meals for the first stations of the cross on Friday March 11<sup>th</sup>

Other business:

Mark Shultz suggested that we might need to purchase some high chairs or booster seats for the parish hall as infants usually do not have a place to sit while at functions in the parish hall with their parents. – He is going to follow up with a proposal.

Arleen Alexander is trying to help get a Catholic Mass on the local channels for Sunday. Charter has a Mass, but Knology does not. Her suggestion is that all parishes need to make a plea to the stations so it can be on ALL service providers. The cost is about \$500.00/month.

The parish Lenten mission will be April 4,5,6,7

The Pastoral Council closed the meeting at 9:35 with a prayer Msgr. Troncale