

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
PASTORAL COUNCIL OF ST. DENIS PARISH**

**24 November 2009**

A meeting of the Pastoral Council of St. Denis Parish was held at 7:00 p.m. on Nov. 24, 2009 in the Parish Center offices. Present were Fr. Jose Shaji, Mary Bennett, Mary Chan, Silvia Vonderlinden, Roy Sardina, Frank Muenneman and Michel Baylocq. Parish Staff (Sister de Chantal and Rosemary Lyon) were present by invitation. Father Jose called the meeting to order at 7 pm and led the opening prayer.

1. Approval of Minutes. The minutes from the Oct. 13, 2009 meeting were approved.

2. Review.

There was a long discussion of Fr. Jose's installation and the reception. Many council members received favorable comments from other parishioners. The ceremony and reception went very well, and everyone enjoyed themselves. Silvia Vonderlinden did an excellent job of organizing and coordinating the event. The Indian entrees brought by Fr. Jose to the reception were very much appreciated.

The annual Reno trip was on 19 October, and went well.

The remembrances for All Saint's day were noted. There was discussion of extending them next year by permitting people to display pictures of their deceased.

3. New Business.

Fr. Jose discussed the parish website that is being prepared by an outside company. This will be reviewed by the Council at the December meeting. It will have more functionality than the present website, and will be maintained by a vendor. In addition to posting parish news, council minutes and ministry schedules, catechists will be able to link their teaching plans.

Rosemary briefly reviewed the Religious Education program. This year's confirmation class is smaller than usual, but class attendance has been very good. The confirmation class will serve the Maple Street Shelter dinner on Dec 13. The reconciliation classes are now involving the parents more than before. The bake sale held by the 7<sup>th</sup> grade on Nov 22 raised \$438 for the Giving Tree.

Fr. Jose discussed the preparations for Advent. St. Denis will be decorated on Dec 20, and Our Lady of the Wayside on Dec 18. The candles will be lit by families at the 9:30 mass. Rosemary said that the Advent wreath making event on Nov 22 was attended by about 100 families. The Giving Tree will be put on Nov 29. The Christmas Mass

schedule at St. Denis and OLOW will be revised this year, with the 5:30 Mass being moved to 4:00 pm.

The approach of Thanksgiving led to a discussion of what the parish could do for parishioners who may not have nearby family with whom to share the holiday. The parish could hold a Thanksgiving dinner in the Parish Hall next year. This led to the idea of having a BBQ for the football playoffs in the Parish Hall as well.

Roy Sardina will attend the next meeting on Nov 25 with the Finance Council to discuss the musician salaries that the Parish is paying at St. Denis and Our Lady of the Wayside.

A Portuguese/Spanish dinner is planned for the council members on Sunday, Jan 31 at 5 pm. There will be more discussion of the menu at the next meeting.

4. Executive Session. Father Jose then asked if there were any Executive Session topics that needed to be discussed. There were none.

There being no further business to come before the St. Denis Catholic Parish Council, the meeting was adjourned until the next scheduled meeting and dinner on Friday, December 11, 2009, at 6 pm. Spouses are invited.