

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

**2 November 2010**

A meeting of the Pastoral Council of St. Denis Parish was held at 7:00 p.m. on 2 Nov, 2010 in the Our Lady of the Wayside parish center. Present were Fr. Jose Shaji, Mary Chan, Silvia Ponte, Mike DiMartino, Roy Sardina, Joan Madden and Michel Baylocq. Parish Staff (Sister de Chantal and Rosemary Lyon) were present by invitation. Father Jose called the meeting to order at 6 pm and led the opening prayer.

1. Approval of Minutes.

The minutes of the 12 Oct, 2010 meeting were approved. Corrections were noted Rosemary Lyon's absence, and that Mary Cague was retiring after 34 years as Parish Secretary.

2. Review.

The Family Farm mass on 17 October at OLW was very well attended and filled the church. There was a little confusion caused by a shortage of ushers and greeters. The council made notes to improve the planning for next year's mass.

The annual Oktoberfest dinner featured good food and good company. There were about 44 diners who enjoyed the evening.

3. New Business.

Fr. Jose had invited John Brew of the Finance Council to the meeting in order to discuss the issue of parish employees. John promised to provide additional details requested by the council.

Monsignor Rodriguez will return to his residence at OLW on 3 November.

Thanksgiving Mass will be held at 9:30 am at both St. Denis and OLW.

There will be Caroling at OLW on 3 Dec.

The annual Christmas Tea will be held on 11 Dec

The St. Denis parish administrative assistant, Mary Cague, will be retiring at the end of the year after 34 years of service. Fr. Jose has started a search for her replacement. The parish council will organize a parish reception for Mary after the 11:30 mass on 5 Dec, at St. Denis, to recognize her service to the parish.

Fr. Jose then discussed a solicitation from Faith Direct, a company that assists parishes in offering electronic contributions for parishioners. After discussion, the council felt that it would be more welcome and cost-effective if the parish provided our own service. The parish has many talented members who could help out.

The discussion then broadened to how to provide additional ministries at St. Denis and OLW to encourage more participation of parishioners in the life of the parish. One idea was to provide additional service projects for the children. A parish activity guide from St. Roberts Church provided some examples of how we could reach out to the community, with welcome committees. There could be opportunities for ministries at St. Denis and OLW to collaborate. The council had already discussed creating some new positions, such as wedding coordinator, newsletter editor, and directory editor. Fr. Jose noted that the donut distribution at the St. Denis 9:30 mass would be staffed by volunteers, which created more opportunities for service, and for parishioners to get to know each other. He planned to put out signup sheets at the 7 Nov Mass.

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 on Tuesday, December 7, 2010, at 7 pm, at the St. Denis Parish Center.