

**Saint John the Evangelist
Parish Pastoral Council
Meeting Minutes
April 18, 2006**

Present:

Father Tom
Sister Evelyn
Ed McCourt

Peg Creonte
John Calcio
Ann O'Hearn

Rick Kinney
Connor Green

I Opening Prayer and Reflection

II Old Business

March minutes accepted

III Discussion regarding Holy Week

Several members commented on the particular Mass or service they had attended. It was felt that that at the Vigil that Father Tom's words were particularly inspirational. Deacon Tom Smith was also praised for his contributions to the service. It was observed that there may have been slightly fewer people attending this year. However, it was also school vacation with many parish families away.

The 7:30 A.M. Mass was very well attended. It was suggested that on special celebratory Masses, moments of music might add a further dimension to the liturgy.

The family Mass at 9:00A.M. was a festive event with Father Tom initiating an Easter egg hunt which highlighted the Resurrection of Jesus. An outdoor hunt was proposed for future Easters. However, it was noted that family celebrations may preclude some from remaining after Mass.

The 11A.M. Mass was celebrated upstairs by Father Bryan and downstairs by Father Bob McMillan, S.J. Both Masses were more than well attended with many worshippers having to stand. The music was uplifting, beautiful and copious. The homilists, of course, were extraordinary in conveying the intrinsic meaning of Easter to the congregations.

Some asked if there were a possibility of scheduling the Stations of the Cross at an earlier time on Fridays. That would permit younger children to attend.

IV Religious Education

Father Tom reported that the search committee has met twice. They have reflected on the nature of the programs and their needs. A strength of the programs is the scheduling, offering a variety of choices for families of elementary school children.

Different skills are required for the two positions. Elementary religious education may be overseen by a "director" who would have a graduate level background or by a "coordinator," who would not require the same credentials. A parishioner in this position would probably be adept at recruiting volunteers. It was suggested that job sharing of a position could result in a wider pool of applicants with the flexibility of a part-time

position. The job openings will be listed in the bulletin, as well as Boston College, and the Religious Education Office of the Archdiocese.

V Parish Appreciation Weekend

Sister Evelyn reported that the Parish Appreciation Weekend is scheduled for the weekend of May 20-21. As the Eucharist is the centerpiece of the parish community, there will be a celebration after each of the 5 Masses. There will be a tent on the front lawn with a banner reading, "All Masses in Thanksgiving for You!" Refreshments will be served under the tent. Sister Evelyn will meet with task force volunteers after Masses on May 5-6. All five ministries of the parish will be represented at each liturgy. Sister Evelyn and Father Tom will ask a homilist to speak at each Mass.

VI Informational

Fall Social Event

Steve Ulian has canvassed many parishioners regarding a fall social event. All responses were enthusiastic. The event will be held in the parking lot of the parish property on Sunday, September 17, 2006. It will be a parish wide event. Steve will form a committee with tasks being assigned by June

Inter Council Breakfast

It was felt that it would be more efficient to change this event to the inter-council dinner to be held on June 13 in the social hall.

Next meeting May 16, 2006