

**Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Church**  
**Pastor's Advisory Council Minutes**  
**September 23, 2009**

A meeting of the Pastor's Advisory Council was held on Wednesday, September 23, 2009 with the following members in attendance: Ann Benedict, Tom Bradley, Marian Chesney, Ann Deane, John Feudale, Jan Kanaskie, Brenda Roadarmel, Sue Singh, Helen Vought and Joseph Yale. Father Al thanked everyone for coming and for being a part of this council. The meeting opened with a prayer. Father Al explained the process of the election to this council and that for the past three years we have had a Steering Committee with the specific purpose of preparing to get a Pastor's Advisory Council in place. Father explained that at this evening's meeting we will elect a Chairman and Vice Chairman and slips will be drawn to determine terms in office for each member. Those serving 4-year terms are: Stephen Major, John Feudale, and Joseph Yale. Those serving 3-year terms are: Ann Benedict, Tom Bradley, and Jan Kanaskie. Those serving 2-year terms are Helen Vought, Ann Deane, and Ed Valeyko. Those serving 1-year terms are Marian Chesney, Brenda Roadarmel, and Sue Singh.

Father Al gave an update on the financial state of the parish and noted that we are doing very well. For last fiscal year, we have been able to pay from ordinary income our assessment to Our Lady of Lourdes Regional School which is approximately \$105,000/year; pay a \$22,000 rental fee for our mobile classrooms; pay \$70,000 to the architect for the building project; move \$25,000 into our savings; pay approximately \$12,000 for tithe the tithe; and pay almost \$3,000 in Capital Campaign expenses. Our ending cash balance was approximately \$40,000. Our Capital Campaign is going very well with \$701,000 in pledges. We did have \$302,000 in our savings so with the project coming in at \$1.2 million; we hopefully will only have to borrow about \$225,000. As of September 21, \$384,807 has been paid on pledges. A Finance Committee meeting was held prior to this meeting and all members were very happy with the state of affairs. Father also reported that we are off to a good start this fiscal year as we have paid many large bills and are still maintaining a positive cash balance at the end of each month. The cash balance for the end of August was \$15,000. Father also informed everyone that he had a contractor come in and give an estimate for the refurbishing of the new offices which was \$37,000. Our Knights of Columbus did all work at a cost of \$5,000.

Father Al addressed the concerns of a few parish members brought to the meeting by Marian Chesney in which people think our project is going to be a school to replace Our Lady of Lourdes Regional. In response, Father Al stated that we have no intention of competing with our regional Catholic School and that we are addressing the needs of our parish family. Perhaps the rumor developed in that the diocese does stipulate that any new project such as ours does need to be school ready and up to code and regulations for possibilities in the future. There will be 10 multipurpose rooms and all interior walls will be able to be moved. There could be a possibility that we could enter into a program and offer after school care or daycare. Our dual purpose rooms will not only house our CCD classes but also our Knights of Columbus, Choir, and a Nursery. Another question concerning the furnishing of the building was addressed by Father Al and he explained that we will use all of what we now have and that we really should be able to furnish everything. Our building project began on September 8, and we are right on schedule. Footers are laid and retaining walls are in place. T. Ross stated that this is a plain, straight forward building project with no frills and gave us a completion date of March 15, 2010. On that date, they will hand over the keys and we can begin moving in. The formal dedication will be held May 9, 2010.

The centralized accounting system of the diocese was explained to the members in which all parishes transfer their weekly deposit from the offertory and then bills are coded on the parish level and mailed to the diocese for payment. The fluid parishes receive interest and parishes carrying a deficit at the end of the fiscal year must take out a loan from the diocese in which interest is charged.

Father Al reminded everyone that we do have our Tithe the Tithe program in place whereas 10% of our tithe goes to the charitable needs of individuals, community, parish committees, etc. We need to begin a Tithe the Tithe Committee in which members will make decisions on where these monies should go. For now, Father Al and Carol have been handling each request as they arise. The Time & Talent Survey was a total success with approximately 220 individuals joining various committees and ministries in our parish.

Father Al also addressed a problem that he sees with people being lax in their Mass attendance. First and foremost they must attend Mass. Some parents drop their children off for CCD and then pick them up but do not

bother to take them to church. Parents enroll their children at Catholic school but neither themselves nor their children attend Mass. Some students claim Holy Rosary as their parish and have no involvement at all here at our parish. They get a reduced rate on tuition but neither they nor their parents have any connection in the life of the parish. Some Confirmation students never come to church. Our parish goal is to invite people and families back to Mass. We currently have 730 registered families with approximately 1,681 individuals. We have 262 students in grades 1-12 with 42 in parochial school and 4 home-schooled. There are approximately 900 people at three Masses/ weekend. We do have many parish members that just do not attend or only attend on Christmas or Easter. There are many, sad to say, that have no attachment to our parish other than they are carried on the parish rolls. These are the members that we need to reach out to with our evangelization. On a positive note, more and more families are joining our parish. In the last six months we have had 20 new registrations. Every six months we offer a Welcome Brunch for new parish members. This has been very successful and those who do make the effort to attend are very impressed by it all. We run the new members' names in the bulletin at this time and publicly welcome them. A member asked if we would resume morning Mass in the Chapel. Father stated that when he first came here there were 13 attending morning Mass. That number is now up to 45, and he does not feel they will fit comfortably. The Chapel is used by the Legion of Mary for their Monthly Rosaries and by the Monthly Adoration Teams the first Saturday of every month. Father hopes to develop more Spiritual Ministries such as Prayer Groups, Novenas, etc. which will use the Chapel.

The process to elect a Chairman and Vice Chairman of this committee was explained. After discussion and members chiding other members, John Feudale agreed to take the position of Vice Chairman and Joseph Yale agreed to take the position as Chairman. The Commissioning Ceremony will be held during Mass in the next few months. Bylaws/Constitution will be prepared for all members. Upcoming meetings are scheduled for 7:00 p.m. Wednesdays, October 28 and November 18. Father Al again thanked everyone for coming and ended the meeting with a Hail Mary.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Fedash,  
Pastor's Advisory Council Secretary