

St. Henry-St. Mary Bi-Parish Council
February 22, 2010
St. Mary Church

St. Mary Attendees

Beth Anson
Bill Fisher
Pat Fowler
Maria Gomez
Jeremy Linsenmeyer
Jim Lowrance
Fr. Jim Miller
Dick Schrad

St Henry Attendees

Fr. Don Czapla
Dick Hierstein
Mary Stubbs
Bob Vokoun

The meeting was called to order at 6:58 p.m., Dick Schrad, presiding. Father Jim Miller led the opening prayer.

The minutes of the October meeting were approved.

Deanery Meeting—no report. Next deanery meeting is February 23.

Archdiocesan Pastoral Council—met December 6. They are to plan a 175-year celebration. Goals were reviewed and were to work on goal setting activities. They are trying to determine if they should continue to subsidize the American Martyrs Retreat House. Currently the APC is providing a \$72,000 subsidy. The deanery representatives are to ask the various parish council members for their email address. The next meeting is scheduled for March 7.

Audio Taping of Sunday Mass at St. Henry—the taping is continuing. The readings and homily are posted on the St. Henry website. The Mass is being aired on radio station KCRM on Sundays at 9:00 p.m.

Seven Steps to Financial Freedom—has a full group. This is a good program for newly married couples.

Theology on Tap—the series of four has been presented. They are planning to begin another series.

Catholics Returning Home—no one signed up for the after Christmas program. A second one is planned for after Easter. The Spiritual Growth Committee, who has been conducting these programs, is considering running the program whenever someone is interested rather than on a scheduled basis. Different ideas were suggested for improving attendance, such as renaming the program (people may feel guilty about showing up again), dividing into age groups (young adults may not want to meet with older folks), and holding it during warmer months.

Lenten Activities—Good Friday liturgy will be at St. Henry at 3:00 p.m.

Pastoral Council—St. Henry is phasing out Spiritual Growth committee and forming a Stewardship committee. This will be put into effect in the fall. It requires changing the parish constitution and getting it approved by the archdiocese. It also requires recruiting people for the committee.

Proposal to Form a Long-Term Planning Committee—Father Don presented his plan for this committee. The committee would meet weekly or bi-weekly to set a vision for the parishes and pass it on to the parish councils. Bi-parish council would set the agenda for the committee. Committee would not be permanent and would have no authority. It could be reformed if needed. Forming of the committee was approved. Parish councils are to select members for this committee at their next parish council meeting. Father Don will address the MACS board.

Forming the two parishes into one is very unlikely. There would be too much diversity and could not function with just one priest. It would require a Spanish speaking priest and an associate. In addition, if the two parishes were combined it would be the largest parish in the archdiocese.

The next bi-parish council meeting is scheduled for April 26, 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary parish hall.

Father Don led the closing prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

LeRoy Jero.