

## Meeting Synopsis - May 16, 2006

**Members present:** Bill McConnell, Maureen McNaughton, Tim Seeman (Pres), Tom Gaetz, Ed Goering, Vonnie Ibes. Also present: Fr. Steve, pastor, Peter Donohue & Anne Cofell (all non-voting members) Not present: Jami Bestgen, Suzanne Owen, Karen Reisdorf, Peter Blattner (youth rep)

1. **Education:** Fr. Steve reported on school enrollment and staffing at the St. Mary's / St Aug's School as well as John XXIII and CHS.
2. **Parish staffing reorganization:** Fr. Steve shared the Bishop's announcement with the Parish Council, that we will be clustered with St. Augustine's and Christ Church-Newman Center. The cluster will be served by two priests--one as canonical pastor and the other a sacramental minister. It is recommended that eventually the cluster hire a full-time deacon and that Newman hire a full time parish life coordinator. The Planning Board is recommending two implementation teams--one for the cluster and one to oversee the larger workings of the entire plan. It is also the goal to involve as many people as possible in the the implementation. The most difficult parts will be in determining a new weekend, holy day and daily schedule of Masses that will affect many people. As well, staffing will be an issue. Fr. Steve said that the Bishop and those 45 on the larger recommendation board believe that it is going to be a time for lay ministry and leadership to blossom. It is the Bishop's desire that the Mass schedules for each cluster and for the city be worked out by January and implemented shortly thereafter so that when he names new pastors it will be well in place. He also hopes to name pastors in the early part of the transition, so that they and the parishes can begin to prepare. All present pastors will stay in place during this time of transition.
3. **Adult Faith Formation and Youth Ministry:** Fr. Steve reported on a very exciting meeting of area adult formation directors and youth ministers from the St. Cloud area parishes on May 16. A larger meeting of youth ministry leaders from all the parishes is on Monday the 22nd. We are working toward better ministry to our young people on a city-wide level. Adult formation leaders are making plans for this next fall to coordinate and offer a wide variety of learning and enrichment experiences available in each parish, including something for those 21-35. Many parishes are exploring a Renew series entitled "Why Catholic?" It is a four year adult formation process. Fr. Steve is attending a meeting on Tuesday to gather more information.
4. **Mary Center:** Exploration of using our school for some very part-time pre-school classes is being explored.
5. **Endowment investment:** The parish will be withdrawing the endowment funds from the Diocesan Investment pool by the end of June and looking toward putting the funds in short-term CD's that yield better interest than the investment fund. Endowed funds are those that are given with the specific intention of investing and growing the principle and using the interest for the specified purpose. The principle cannot be touched. Currently we have 3 endowments. The Finance Board empowered Henry Kampa and George Sjogren to search for the most advantageous and least risky options and to make the decision according to the parameters set by the board.
6. **Council election process:** The council liked the nomination and election process. Next year we will move up the nominations to March 4 with presentations and vote on March 25 so as to avoid the busy-ness of post-Easter. The presentations and vote will be done on Sunday morning in the upper church right after Mass.
7. **Finance Committee:** Adult envelope sacrificial giving is down and loose collection is up slightly The Finance committee approved a balanced budget for the council's approval at June meeting.
8. **Faith Formation:** Fr. Steve reported that for next year's adult education we will be looking at the

issue of Eucharistic hospitality and the variety of people who come to worship here as a downtown church. Why do we welcome? How do we welcome? What is the sacramental basis? Plan is still in progress.

9. **Parish Life/Social:** "Mamma Mia" is on Friday. Chili Cook Off is in July. Receptions were hosted after Baculaureate and confirmation.
10. **Building and Grounds:** Tom Gaetz is looking into procuring more adequate insulation in the Mary Center attic.
11. **Vision 2000:** Estimates are being procured regarding tile for the lower church so we can have an idea about the cost.
12. **Next meeting:** June 20. New members Deb Castellanos and Mike Boyle will be invited to join the meeting to get their feet wet.