

**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES
AUG. 11, 2008**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order.

Council members present: Eloise Anderson, John Brozek, Cathy Chenu-Campbell, Shaaron Gilson, Judy Guardalabene, Richard Hernandez, Dick Jaco, Linda Johnson-Panattoni, Bob Reid, Steve Tholcke, Janet Vitt, Fr. Anthony

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Richard led the prayer and facilitated faith sharing.

WELCOME

Richard welcomed all, especially Dick Jaco who was attending his first meeting.

Richard thanked all involved in the Staff/Council planning day, and all those who helped with the Transitus of St. Clare.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from last month were approved.

PASTOR'S REPORT

Fr. Anthony provided a list of the pastoral concerns topics that were brainstormed at the Staff/Council planning day. He then led a process for the Council to rank these concerns.

The top ranked items are: 1) Nurturing the faith life of the parish (including the faith life of young people), 2) How to address the fact that staff are tired, 3) How to create safe space to discuss controversial topics, 4) Conflict resolution within parish groups, 5) How our parish fits into, and deals with, the larger Church, 6) How to ensure that newcomers feel welcome in established groups.

Before further discussion or problem solving, Fr. Anthony suggested that we take some more time to reflect and pray on these topics. Remember that we might not begin new projects to address these concerns right away, since the Centennial celebration is occupying time and energy.

PARISHIONER COMMENTS

A parishioner has asked about having the printed text of readings available during Mass. Council asked that the Liturgy Committee consider this request, and create a bulletin announcement informing parishioners about available options.

Pam Suwinsky, from the Welcoming Committee, presented a brief report on this group's activities. They have created a new brochure, and will be taking over SFP 101.

REPORTS

Communications Committee – "Mass Appeal" will be distributed in early to mid September.

School Board – the first meeting of the new school year will be on Thursday.

Finance Council – still looking for a new liaison from the Parish Council.

FOLLOW UP ON OLD BUSINESS

Centennial Committee report – About 60 people volunteered to go through training to become docents; 35 were trained in the first session. Announcements about the receptions have gone into the bulletin. Solicitations for food donations are beginning, and a call for volunteers will go out.

Financial Assistance Ad-hoc committee – Written information packets are now available. Both Richard and Vicky are listed as resource people; their contact information is in the packets.

Parish facilities use fees – an ad-hoc group met to review policies and forms; they revised some of the wording to clarify policies. Joe Prassa will be approaching all user groups (non-parish groups) to negotiate increased rental fees.

Christmas Mass survey – about 150 survey forms have been filled out; Janet and Deborah are compiling the results

NEW BUSINESS

Upcoming November election – the Peace and Justice Committee will be doing Voter registration after all Masses on Sept. 7/8 when we are doing Meet & Greet. They hope that we will help encourage parishioners to register to vote.

A 'consistent message' has been drafted to provide direction in responding to questions regarding Prop. 8. Informational handouts outlining the position of the California Bishops on this topic are available at the back of the church. There is also an informational handout, "Faithful Citizenship," from the US Bishops on the responsibilities of active citizenship.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Voice of the Faithful is holding a one day conference in San Francisco; talk to Marianne Grisez for details (or check <http://www.votf-sf.org/>)

CLOSING PRAYER

Janet led the closing prayer; Cathy volunteered to lead prayer next month.

NEXT MEETING

Sept. 9, 2008, 7 pm

DATES TO REMEMBER

Sept. 6/7	Meet and greet after all Masses
Sept. 7	SFP 101, 1 pm, Brunsman Hall
Sept. 13 & 17	Safe Environment training
Oct. 4/5	Centennial celebration begins, receptions after all Masses
Oct. 18	Fall day of reflection