

# ANNUNCIATION CATHOLIC CHURCH

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740 N 6th Street Baldwin City, KS 66006 785-594-3700

## Pastoral Council Minutes 1 May 2012

Fr. Farrar began the meeting with prayer, and then invited the members present to offer their thoughts on the pulse of the parish.

### Pulse of the Parish

All thought things were going well. Nancy Kronoshek suggested that the parish investigate options for spirit apparel in the hopes of it contributing to our sense of identity, and out of the awareness that the Maple Leaf t-shirts are often worn by parishioners.

Ann Christie suggested that we renew an invitation to parishioners to participate in Adoration on first Sundays. Mark Barnes suggested that resources, such as prayers and readings, be hand selected. Father will select these and encourage people at Mass to participate in Adoration. Adorers will also work to encourage parishioners to spend time in Adoration.

It was decided to move the collection for the Baldwin Food Pantry to the second Sunday of the month, which will permit Father to encourage and remind people about the donations at the end of Mass, since Adoration occurs on the first Sunday of the month and announcements are not possible then.

### Summer CCD Camp

Fr. Farrar spoke about the upcoming summer ccd camp. He initially had planned to replace Ginny Meinen after she retired, and continue the program on

Sunday mornings. However, after reflecting on the particular circumstances of Annunciation, especially the space limitations, Father's availability on Sunday mornings, the possible participation of school teachers, college students and high school youth of the parish during the summer, and the busyness of families, Father would like to try two weeks of summer ccd, with follow-up sessions throughout the year. It is the primary opportunity of the parents to educate their children in the faith, and it is hoped that parents will become more involved in their children's faith formation. The parents will be responsible for lessons throughout the school year. Classes will meet together three times in the fall and in the spring to continue to develop the sense of community established during the summer and to offer parents the opportunity to develop and enhance friendships with other parents in the parish.

Classrooms will be constructed in the parish hall, which will allow for better classroom environments. Grades 1-4 will attend in the mornings. Grades 5-8 in the afternoon.

It is also envisioned that some of the classrooms will remain standing throughout the year to serve as a cry room, meeting rooms, and a room for brides to prepare for their wedding.

### Confirmation Program

With Father taking on the duties of the director of religious education for the parish, the Confirmation will need to be adapted. He has proposed a two-year program. During the first summer, Confirmation candidates will attend a Catholic Heart Work Camp, during which they will assist those in need and continue to learn their faith. During the second summer experience, candidates will have class with Father at the parish. In between summer experiences, readings and reflection questions will be sent to the candidate and his/her parents to be read, discussed and returned. One or two meetings during the school year are foreseen. All candidates are required to attend CCD thru 8th grade.

Costs of the program, especially the Catholic Heart Work Camp, were discussed. It was recommended that the families be asked to contribute \$150, with the remaining \$165 per person to be acquired through fundraising.

### Instilling Co-Responsibility

Father spoke of the growing outreach of the parish, along with a growth in volunteers. However, the need of additional help is felt by everyone involved at the parish. In order for Father to minister at Baker, additional assistance will be needed.

Dave & Nancy Kronoshek have agreed to teach RCIA. It was also decided that members of the pastoral council will take on greater responsibilities during Maple Leaf. Members will be selected alphabetically to assist Gary & Donita Turk. Gradually, all members will participate, overseeing groups/shifts, and reaching out to parishioners they know to cooperate in this major event.

Other areas of cooperation include building maintenance, social outreach and special projects.

### Highlighting Local Catholic Business Owners/Operators

Ann Christie suggested that we draw attention to parishioners in the local community who own or operated businesses. They will be invited to submit a feature article about their business to run in the bulletin.

### Parish Suppers

Father noted the growing sense of community in the parish, but he continues to notice that many people do not know one another, but would like to and would enjoy being around other parishioners. Developing our identity and our sense of being a family is important. He would like to have pastoral council members and their spouses prepare a meal at the rectory and enjoy it with members of the parish and Father. Beginning with new parishioners, we hope to gradually work through the entire community. Father will notify pastoral council members of his schedule. They will then select convenient dates for themselves. Parishioners will then be invited to the rectory for a meal.

## Year of Faith

Father notified the pastoral council of the upcoming Year of Faith that has been proclaimed by Pope Benedict. The Archdiocese of Kansas City will begin an initiative to reinvigorate the faith in Catholics of the Archdiocese. In addition to this, Father will distribute a Faith inventory at a Sunday Mass early in the Fall. This test/quiz will give him a better sense of parishioners' understanding of the faith. He will then use this data in part to formulate a series of sermons to be given throughout the Year of Faith on "Catechetical Sundays". Resources will be made available to parishioners, which will allow them to prepare for upcoming sermon topics. Additionally, articles will be occasionally distributed with the bulletin. It is also hoped that the School of Faith can be utilized for classes during this Year.