

Minutes
St. Gregory the Great Parish
Meeting April 22, 2002

Present: Father Arrando, Kathy Kelly, Steve Crespo, Pat Murphy, Mary Lou Cuff, and Joanne Murphy

Absent: Mark Edwards, Frank Dorrico, and Ed DeVeaux.

Special Guest: Joe Dise of the Building Committee

Minutes: Steve Crespo

Opening Prayer: Mary Lou Cuff

Review Minutes:

- ✓ The Minutes from our last meeting were approved with corrections.

Building Committee Report:

Joe Dise

- ✓ So far we have raised \$1.35 million dollars towards our Capital Campaign. This translates into approximately \$3100.00 per pledge from about 410 families.
- ✓ Joe restated comments made a year ago in which it was said we might not reach our goal of \$3.5 million. Joe would rather see us build both buildings together, and is opposed to doing it piecemeal.
- ✓ Then there was a discussion about scaled-down versions of the two buildings and possibly having them completed at a cost of \$2 million dollars. Joe said this could be done without cutting workmanship. This may help to increase pledges.
- ✓ Kathy said if we make this kind of change, we should be prepared to explain why. She also said we have been up front from the beginning, and we don't want people to think anything different.
- ✓ If the funds are not quite there we could start the rectory and erect a "shell" of the Parish Center with the offices only, make the renovations to the existing rectory (school library and teen center), and then finish the Parish Center in a second phase.
- ✓ Father Arrando asked Joe for viable figures for this scaled down version by the next meeting. Joe is confident we can do the same for less money. Kathy asked for a mandate to move forward in pricing for scaled down version to hand out to our parishioners.
- ✓ Kathy expressed sincere thanks on behalf of the council for all that the Building Committee has done for the success of the Capital Campaign.
- ✓

Pastor's Report:**Fr. Arrando**

- ✓ This year's Lent was great and the Mission was phenomenal. RCIA was wonderful as well. During the Easter Vigil one person was baptized, seven were confirmed, and four were received into the church.
- ✓ On April 9th – Holocaust Day – Father Arrando sent a donation of flowers to the United Jewish Center in the name of St. Gregory's Church. The UJC was overwhelmed.
- ✓ Father has kept in touch with the Muslim community. The recent problems with Palestine and Israel have been hurting them. Muslims have been stopped here in Danbury and harassed. Father Arrando brought them pamphlets from the American Civil Liberties Union detailing their rights as citizens. They were grateful for this gesture of good will.

Christian Education and Formation:**Mary Lou Cuff**

- ✓ On Good Soil is continuing. They met this month and discussed "Focus on Involving Families". The General Directory for Catechesis feels it is important for the parish to help families. The family is the first soil on which the seed of faith is planted. Parishes can and should provide resources for parents so they can be conscious and intent in the way they share faith at home. One way to start is with Baptism. Getting parents involved from Baptism means they both can grow in faith together. The Council should take priority on this issue. Kathy likes the idea of a support system for parents. Kathy asked Mary Lou to come up with names to facilitate this process. Kathy will find a way to market to our parishioners.

Spiritual Life and Worship:**Joanne Murphy**

- ✓ Unfortunately, Julie Smythe can no longer handle the Pro-Life Ministry. We will once again need to solicit the help of another person to cover Pro-Life. A notice will be put into the church bulletin.
- ✓

Administrative Services:**Mark Edwards**

- ✓ Mark was absent and no reports were received.

Parish and Community Life:**Pat Murphy**

- ✓ Pat was in attendance, but had no report for this meeting.

Christian Services Committee:**Frank Dorrico**

- ✓ Frank was absent and no reports were received.

New Business:

- ✓ Timeline for new Council nominations was discussed.
- ✓ There will be an insert in the next two weeks bulletins discussing the qualification for being a Council member.
- ✓ Then on the weekend of May 11th & 12th there will be in-pew voting of nominations for the new Council. We will need a Council presence at every Mass to collect the votes, band them, and put them into the safe in the sacristy. Then at 1:00pm on Sunday, May 12th, Kathy, Steve, Pat and anyone else who can make it will tally the votes alphabetically. Then these people will be called and invited to an informational night on Thursday, June 6th, in the Church at 7:00pm. John Anderson, Denis Bouffard, and Vin Nolan will run this meeting.
- ✓ Steve will prepare tally sheets.
- ✓ On Monday, June 10th, we will have our next Council meeting and invite the nominees to join us and bring their biographies.
- ✓ During the weekend of June 15th & 16th the biographies and photos of the nominees will be posted in the Church for the Parishioners to view.
- ✓ At the Masses of June 22nd & 23rd we will have in-pew voting for new Council members.
- ✓ The installation of new members will take place on Saturday, June 29th at the 4:30pm Mass.
- ✓ On Monday, July 1st, we will hold our first regular meeting of the new Council.

Our next meeting full council meeting is scheduled Monday, June 10, 2002 @ 7:00pm.

Closing Prayer: Father Arrando

Respectfully submitted: Steve Crespo