

**St. Francis of Assisi Parish
Belchertown, MA
Meeting Minutes of October 3, 2006 Pastoral Council**

Members in attendance:

Pat Crosby, Dick Martin, Debbie Fish, Karl Hammond, Maryjane Lemire, Roseann Montefusco, Michael Hurst, Judy Dudek, Francesca Forrest, Jeanne, Brzycki, Stan Wyman, Steve Forrest, Paul Pierce, Christine Schmidt, Theresa M. Coty, Shelly Garrow, David D. Adams, Barbara Chiappetta, Kathy Abraham, Judy Trickey, Robert Letendre, Ray Fontaine, Fr. Vern

1. Business meeting was called to order at 7:55 by Stephen Forrest.
2. November calendar was passed out by David Adams.
3. Fr. Vern introduced our guest, Mr. Leslie Squires from the Historical Society. Mr. Squires wanted to present a copy of the Demolition Alternative Law to us and explained to the Council its contents. He also updated us on the Historical Laws . Copies were passed out for our review of the proposed Law which includes about 100 houses in Belchertown. This will be going to public hearings and eventually to the ballot for us to vote on. Mr. Squires introduced his assistant, Maxine Oland. Judy Trickey asked about St. Francis Rectory and Stan Wyman brought to our attention that the Rectory was built on 1928. Maxine Oland added that the Stone House will be giving an Architectural Tour by Doris Dickinson on October 14, 2006 from 10-4.
4. Francesca Forrest spoke on the Crop Walk. A request for drivers was mentioned and Roseann, Christine and Jean volunteered but we still need more drivers. Flyers were available after the Mass this past weekend and forms were given out at the meeting.
5. Debbie Fish spoke for the Book Group. The first meeting was great even though it was only 3 people. The next meeting will be held on October 27th and the book is: The secret Diary of Elizabeth Leseur. A flyer was passed out containing the books and dates.
6. Judy Trickey spoke on the Generations of Faith. To date we had 336 registered households. The study of the 10 Commandments is this years concentration. In March of 2007, Fr. Gaftney will do a retreat. Judy was happy to announce the Christine Hurst stepped forward to be our Child Advocate and will be completing our CORI checks.
7. Kathy Abraham brought up the subject of lending out of St. Francis chairs and tables for public functions. We are only able to lend out chairs and a few of the older, rectangular tables. The new white rectangular and the round tables are not available to be borrowed. Kathy also asked about the Lectors having a refresher course. Jean mentioned that the diocese is working on a training program for all lectors and Eucharistic ministers at the Deanery level and this would afford many opportunities for training.
8. Steve relayed a message from Gayle about the Eucharist Vigil this Friday Evening . Paul Pierce also stated that the vigil is to pray for vocations.
9. Karl Hammond updated us that they are working on the problem of the overhead microphones in the Choir area picking up noises during Masses when there is no choir and parishioners sit under these mics. Upon a suggestion from Roseann, he is also working on the possibility of having a CD made of our choir someday. Judy Trickey reminded Karl of the grade level Masses.
10. Other New business
Christine Schmidt from the Youth Ministry told of the ongoing training which lasts for a full year. Youth Ministry is very active and looking for youth to attend an overnight in February of 07. Children in the 6th,

7th, and 8th grade are eligible. Friday the youth group will be stuffing envelopes and will send out a survey. They will be walking with the Crop Walk and also making cards for the Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets we prepare for our St. Francis families.

Mike mentioned that Family Life is also active and will be showing the movie South Pacific on October 28th in the social center and on October 28 and October 29th, they will be making an announcement regarding the Bereavement group.

11. Pastor's notes

Fr. Vern passed out welcome cards for us to sign for the many new families joining us at St. Francis.

Fr. Vern will pass out the 11th Pastors Recognition this weekend.

The parking lot resurfacing is still under bid.

The landscaping by the devotional shrine was done by 5 Star Garden.

12. Closing prayer by Fr. Vern.

The next meeting will be held on November 7th at 7:30 PM.