

Minutes of the June 10, 2007
St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

Meeting was called to order by President Brien Dick at 1:07 PM

Opening Prayer:

Attendance: Fr. Tom, Jon Bernhard, David Denis, Brien Dick, Lynn Johal, Barb Kerkhoff, Jennifer Kerr, Ann Kriebel, Sean Sullivan, Marvin Weniger.

Brien Dick moved that the minutes for the last two meetings be approved (April, May).
Council accepted.

The first order of business was defining what exactly the YOE (Year of Engagement) is. Barb suggested that based on our preparations that the definition should focus on: increasing involvement, creating an understanding of what Church is, and what would be needed to connect all groups together. Father Tom presented a simple plan of God, others, and self that also incorporated the YOE slogan of "Just One". Fr. Tom suggested "Just One" new style of prayer to the Lord, "Just One" commitment to bring someone new to Church, and "Just One" new ministry to encourage self growth. Brien and Lynn then introduced their written definitions of the YOE, which the Council then reworked to provide the agreed upon definition of YOE which is

Just One

The YOE calls us to develop a stronger sense of community by increasing the involvement of St. Tom's student and resident members in parish activities that put our faith into action.

Sean then presented the obstacle of creating a vehicle in which we could effectively and efficiently connect the members of St. Tom's to the ministries. Brien then suggested a possible solution to that problem would be to create an Engagement Coordination Team that would connect the appropriate ministries and materials to solve the ongoing problem of getting people involved. Discussion the ensued on who should be part of the Team, who should be in charge, and what goals would they look to accomplish. It was pointed out that the Staff of St. Tom's and the Stewardship committees would be important parts in this team. It was agreed upon to invite them to the August 26 meeting, and hear their inputs on the issue.

Lastly discussion turned toward the next Ministry alignment. It was agreed upon that the Council should make sure all ministries are well-represented at this meeting, and they leave knowing exactly what YOE is, and what they need to do to help support it. The council discussed charging the ministries to find out which people we are not reaching, and to develop strategies to include these people in the YOE. Also, the meeting would be an opportunity to hold the ministries accountable for the actions they agreed to perform at the last Ministry Alignment on April 15.

Closing Prayer: Fr. Tom

Meeting concluded at 3:00 PM