

PARISH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

The Parish Pastoral Council has gotten off to a strong start in 2011. The Council reelected Ken Quinn and Joe Drozd to another term as Chair and Vice Chair, respectively, and elected Sherri Hughes, the Provost at Marymount University and former Vice Chair of Stewardship, as Council Secretary.

Quinn named Kirse Kelly as Director of Special Projects, and made the following Committee appointments: Faith Formation – Tony Annett, Chair; Communications and Evangelization: JonMarc Buffa, Chair; Stewardship & Development – Marie Mattingly, Chair, Enrique Sotelo, Vice Chair; Social Justice and Community Service – Gregg Glotnis, Co-Chair, Franz Kuo, Co-Chair, Carmen Iezzi, Vice Chair; Hospitality – Terri Kelly, Chair, Carol Cook, Vice-Chair; Liturgy – Nancy McDermott, Chair.

In addition, Quinn named Rubèn Ortiz and David Turcios as Liaisons to the Hispanic Community, and Jillian McMahon as the new Liaison to the Young Adult Ministry. Quinn said: “We’re blessed to have such an outstanding group of Catholic leaders in our parish who are willing to offer their time and talents.” He urged all parishioners to both keep them in their prayers, and to offer assistance directly. “We are all called upon to be servants of God,” Quinn stated, “and to avoid the tendency of looking to our faith for what it can do for me, instead of looking to Christ’s example to see what we can do for others.” Getting involved in the Cathedral’s many ministries “is a wonderful way to show God’s love for the poor and needy,” he said, “and deepen your own faith.”

At the annual Parish Council retreat held on March 5, 2011 at St. Paul’s College in D.C., Council members focused on the Cardinal’s call for Evangelization and building discipleship in the parish. Disciples know that we are each called and sent to go forth and build the Kingdom of God. By focusing better on Word, Worship, Community, and Service, the Parish Council is encouraging parishioners and ministries to a calling of conversion in a growing and committed relationship with God and the entire community. “We’re committed to enhancing the welcoming spirit and sense of inter-connectedness at the Cathedral,” said Vice Chair Joe Drozd, “while helping people re-identify with their Catholic faith.”

The Council noted that with the elevation of Cardinal Wuerl, the increase in parishioners and activities, and the resplendence of the Cathedral, “We’re no longer a hidden gem, and are ready to fulfill Monsignor’s vision of the Cathedral as a beacon of light in the region,” said Secretary Sherri Hughes. To get there, the Council emphasized the need to reach out to former Catholics, non-Catholics, visitors, and parishioners to help transform the Cathedral from a house of worship to a house of family, praying together, sharing the sacred meal, and helping each other in times of need.

The Council invites everyone to accept this call for Discipleship, and begin walking this journey of faith together by becoming more actively involved in the many ministries and activities at the Cathedral, perhaps beginning with the Simple Lenten Meals on Friday evenings during Lent. Deepen your faith today. If you have any questions, issues, or ideas regarding the Parish Council, do not hesitate to contact PPC Chair Ken Quinn directly, at 202 468 1056, or email kquinn714@aol.com.