

**Archdiocesan Pastoral Council  
Meeting on March 1, 2007**

Sr. Marian welcomed everyone and announced that Jane Devlin has been named to fill the vacancy on the Steering Committee. Nancy Cirone has received a promotion and will no longer be able to be the Recording Secretary for the APC and the Steering Committee. There will be a written consultation for the position of Recording Secretary.

**Cardinal Sean's Remarks**

- Cardinal Sean talked about his recent trip to Peru to visit members of the St. James Society. The St. James Society is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.
- St. John's Seminary:
  - The report of the Apostolic Visitation is very positive about St. John's Seminary.
  - The Seminary has been hosting discernment retreats for other dioceses that have been very well attended
  - On the weekend of February 2 – 4 more than 70 men participated in the discernment retreat for the Archdiocese of Boston
  - Cardinal Sean has been meeting with bishops of the region to encourage them to send their seminarians to St. John's.
- The Catholic Appeal exceeded its goal and raised \$13.6 million dollars.
- The regionalization of the schools in Brockton is going very well.
- The search for a new Superintendent of Schools is progressing well. The committee hopes to present several finalists in the near future.
- The Novena to St. Patrick for religious vocations will take place March 9 – 18.
- Transfer of Caritas to sponsorship by Ascension Health Care will allow hospitals in the Caritas system to retain their Catholic identity. A Due Diligence process is going on now. Transfer of sponsorship is anticipated for July 1, 2007.

**Boston Men's and Women's Conferences – March 17 and 18**

Jen Schiller spoke about the Men's and Women's Conferences that will take place on March 17 and 18 respectively. Participation in the conferences is a wonderful way to deepen our relationship with God. APC members received complimentary tickets.

## **Bi-Centennial Celebration**

APC members sat with members of their region to continue the conversation on the presentation by the Bi-Centennial Committee on Regional Celebrations.

- The North Region will coordinate its celebration with Proud 2B Catholic.
- Central Region will focus on the Liturgical Identity of their Parishes. “The evolution of the parishes in the region and expression thereof,” i.e., ethnic, gender, economic and social diversity.
- Merrimack Region has discussed several possible locations and events. A question was raised: How to demonstrate or identify the Archdiocese’s role and contributions to these individual parishes? Many parishes may not know what they are celebrating.
- A general question was raised: Is there a structure under which we are supposed to work? Or do we design the day ourselves?

## **Committee Time**

Each of the committees: Faith Formation and Evangelization, Communication and Parish Life and Leadership met to set direction for upcoming year.

## **Steering Committee Draft Proposal on APC Role**

APC representatives sat by region to discuss what was going well in visiting parishes. The Steering Committee submitted a proposal regarding the role of APC representatives for discussion. Sample bulletin announcements were also part of the discussion.

The meeting concluded at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sr. Marian Batho, CSJ