

University Parish of Christ Sun of Justice
Pastoral Council Meeting
Wednesday, 6 April 2005

Present: Fr. Ed Kacerguis, Marie Venaglia, Rosanne Rose, Bill Webster, Leah Smith, Heather Scoffone, Mark Meehan, Ann Brinnitzer

Absent: Sue Gutmann, Matthew Cusack, Matt Kosara

Faith Formation and prayer:

Leah led the Council in Evening Prayer.

Minutes:

The minutes of the March 2, 2005 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Pastor's Report:

- The Lenten Wednesday Series was “truly blessed”, a “spectacular success” for our parish and many visitors. Archbishop Flynn’s talk has been transcribed, and is featured in the *Sun & Balance*.
- The Liturgy Committee is studying a report from Eric on the lenten program.
- The book of Gospels is now being used on Sundays and holy days.
- Our celebrations are enhanced by many gifts. The book of Gospels is a particularly significant example. Other items such as decorative candles, candle followers, works of art, etc. are surprisingly expensive, and would strain our budget. We are most grateful to the donors.
- Next year our very successful pre-Cana program may be offered to the cluster parishes.
- The Bishop’s Appeal will be sent out next week. Our approach is “something is better than nothing.”
- Calendar items: Parish Appreciation Night - Thursday, 28 April, 6:00 p.m.
Graduation Mass - Thursday, 19 May, 5:00 p.m.
- The summer Mass schedule (5:15 Sat., 10:00 Sun.) will begin 28 May. We will return to the full schedule on 20 August.
- The Liturgy Committee is considering a proposal that a parish funeral Mass would be the only Mass on that day.

Chaplain's Report:

- Marie attended a deanery meeting on March 15. Sister Kathleen Turley and Jack Manning were present. They reviewed the pastoral planning process of the diocese and asked that each pastoral council review the article from ORIGINS by Bishop Hubbard. This will become a major working document for pastoral planning. In 4-6 weeks, there will be a discussion guide to use as we consider this document as a council.

Bishop Hubbard will give this address at Ministry Day (April 16) and all are encouraged to take part in this event.

- Marie will be giving one of the workshops at Ministry Day (4/16) re: working with volunteers.

Chair's Report:

- We welcome Ann Brinnitzer to the Council. Lori Fowler will also be joining the Council in September. We are still seeking two interested students. Fr. Ed will assist in finding them.
- We need to select officers at the May meeting. Matt Kosara has offered to contact all members of the Council to determine who is interested in serving, and to receive nominations.
- It does not appear feasible to participate in the Corpus Christi Parish retreat this year. Further consideration will be given to that activity next year.

Committee and Organization Reports:

Faith Formation Committee (Marie)

- Safe Environment workshops were held on Sunday, March 6. Fran Hyde gave the presentation for Grades 1-4; Terri Kersch led the discussion for Grades 5-10. We are now in compliance with the diocesan guidelines. By offering the program on a multi-grade level, we should be covered for the next 2 years.
- Marie and Ann Brinnitzer attended a training workshop for the Generations of Faith program, a possible (inter-generational) faith formation process for our parish. There will be a meeting on Sunday, April 17 (9:00 a.m.) of the catechists, some parents, and other interested parishioners to discuss this process.
- Marie met with the catechetical leaders from our cluster to discuss what each has planned and to work towards collaborating on programs (and not duplicating programs.)
- Sunday, March 13, we held a Lenten program for the children in our Faith Formation program. This included story-telling, Lenten activities, and an outreach craft for our homebound.

Social Concerns Committee(Marie)

- Food Collection: We still need help with the 9am and 5pm Masses on Sundays. There will be an announcement in the bulletin concerning the amount of money received for this project.
- Easter Flowers: 18 plants were distributed to homebound members of the parish this Easter.
- Joseph House: Karen Campbell contacted Joseph House and has come up with a “calendar of needs”. Katrin St.John will work on having this available for parishioners as well as preparing a bulletin article concerning specific needs each month. One real need they have is for pillows. Karen is going to call Jim Fry (Joseph House) to find out if they want us to provide pillows/the funds to purchase pillows.

Newman Catholic Fellowship (Heather):

- Newman prepared 30 Easter baskets for Joseph’s House
- Alpha Omega, a joint Christian organization at RPI, is planning a fall barbeque on Freshman Hill.
- Newman will participate in the MS Walk on Sunday 1 May.
- A retreat at Pyramid Lake is being planned for the last weekend in September.
- A dinner for Joseph’s House or some activity for Ferrano House is being considered. There is a need for volunteers willing to provide some TLC for babies at Ferrano House.
- Fr. Ed. Noted that the labyrinth provided by Newman was a very successful part of our lenten observance. It will be a regular part of our lenten program in the future.

Other Business:

Parish Survey: The survey will be conducted on Sunday 10 April. The questionnaires will be distributed after communion, and collected at the end of Mass. Questionnaires will also be available the following two weeks.