

University Parish of Christ Sun of Justice
Pastoral Council Meeting
Tuesday, January 13, 2004

Present: Vivien McNaughton, Rosanne Rose, Bill Webster, Fr. Ed Kacerguis, Robin Chin, Rendell Torres, Andrew Hill, Margaret Leathem, Rebecca Lamb

Absent: Leah Smith, Sue Gutmann, Martha Walsh

Faith Formation:

For Faith Formation we looked at the goals for Campus Ministry outlined in a 1985 pastoral letter from the U.S. Bishops. These goals included forming a faith community, appropriating the faith, forming the Christian conscience, educating for justice, facilitating personal development, developing leaders, and vocation ministry. We then reflected on ways in which we have met these goals. Examples of attainment included intensification in attendance at the Sunday 5 PM Mass, the Advent Blue Books, community formation activities, Father Ed's preaching, RCIA, and student retreats.

Pastor's Report:

Christmas and Advent went very well. Because of calendar this year, students got a peek at what it looks like at Christmas here – they were especially amazed at the Christmas tree. The Advent concert, The Early Muses, held on Saturday, December 13 was a spiritual evening.

Lent is coming up in six weeks; the Black Books have been ordered. We have a baby for baptism at the Easter Vigil.

The Lenten series is very exciting. Two of the books, written by the speakers, are current. Chris Ringwald is dealing with cultural issues of the Sabbath Day – this impacts parents making decisions on competing faith and values. David Carr's book The Erotic Word is very apropos today. Goodenough has the leading textbook in her field in the country. Henderson has started the first internet church. Newson-Camara is just back from Capetown.

The quarterly financial report is right on target.

The new crucifix was well received. People liked that it was a combination of the old and the new.

Getting to Know You Sunday is scheduled for Feb. 1st. Rosanne will put something in the bulletin.

Committee Reports:

Faith Formation

All catechists need to submit to a background check with references and to attend Virtuis training.

There is a Safety and Crisis Plan in place for the parish that has been submitted to the Police and Fire Departments. It details on where we would evacuate.

Curriculum – We are using a new model for grades 5 to 10. Kids love it and want to stay with it. Instead of meeting every week, they meet once a month from 11:30 to 2 with 10:30 Mass attendance as part of it. Current topics include discipleship, lent, advent, and the Baptismal symbols. The focus is primarily hands on.

The K to 4 curriculum has changed. It can be viewed at <http://www.faithfirst.com> by clicking on the Kids' Clubhouse link.

Confirmation – The 11 young people preparing for Confirmation are meeting for the first time this Sunday night. They are using the Catholic Faith handbook. A Diocesan Retreat is scheduled for March 21; Confirmation on May 2nd. On May 9th at the 10:30 Mass the newly confirmed will be engaged in all the ministries.

Recruitment Committee - Fr. Ed. and Rosanne will be meeting this week concerning this.

Newman Fellowship

Getting to Know You Sunday – The plans for the 5 pm Mass include using name tags, breaking people up into three to four small groups with each group completing a 50 piece puzzle. It will be announced the week before and on the day of.

Next spring break (2005) Newman is planning on going to Camden NJ.

Annual Call for Council Members

Discussion focused on the discernment process for membership on the Pastoral Council. Members reflected on what went wrong and what went right during the initial period of discernment. It was suggested that we have an informational meeting before we have a discernment meeting. We also need to draft a document about what we are. The bylaws call for an announcement in March with discernment in April. With Easter falling this year on the second week of April it might be better to put the call out at the end of February with discernment in mid March. It was agreed that we should take a closer look at this situation at our next meeting.

Vision

Bill led a discussion on our mission and vision. He talked about our expectations and what our “turf” is and how it all comes together. Discussion followed. One of the points

made was that people coming to the C+CC for an event may know nothing about the parish. Displays like those for the student retreat and the Committee of 100 Dinner could be used to show faith-community activities.

Other

It was suggested that pictures of the Church of the Sacred Heart at Cape Town South Africa be displayed.

Vivien suggested that council members be provided with a current list of parishioners.

Rendell will lead faith formation next meeting.