

University Parish of Christ Sun of Justice  
Pastoral Council Meeting  
Tuesday, December 2, 2003

Present: Vivien McNaughton, Rosanne Rose, Bill Webster, Fr. Ed Kacerguis, Robin Chin, Sue Gutmann, Rendell Torres, Andrew Hill, Margaret Leathem, Martha Walsh, Rebecca Lamb, and David Dziewulski (observer)

Absent: Leah Smith

Faith Formation:

Margaret shared her experiences at the Catholic Youth Conference in Houston. Seven young people, 2 girls and 5 boys attended from our Parish. They experienced the “Young Church” of today. The theme was Social Justice. The first speaker, Bud Welch, spoke about his journey toward reconciliation. His daughter was killed in the Oklahoma City bombing. The next speaker was Craig Kielburger who began Free the Children. It was a moving experience for all who attended.

Pastor’s Report:

Confirmation will be May 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Cathedral. The trend today is to bring the Parishes to the Cathedral where they can experience the broader community.

Work is being done on the property. The locus trees are being removed because they are diseased. They will be replaced.

Clustering is going forward. In the Spring we will have a better idea of where we are.

Christmas – There will be a penance service during the Christmas Season.

Committee Reports:

*Faith Formation*

The Committee is not functioning at present. Fr. Ed, however, has been providing adult faith formation. Those who attended, thanked and praised him for his efforts.

There are 30 families who are participating in our Faith Formation program for youth. These families adopted families from Sunnyside for Thanksgiving. Young people will be coming this Friday to collect for “Clothe a Child.” On St. Nicolas day candy canes with prayer will be blessed and distributed at each Mass. Faith Formation parents are coordinating the Christmas eve Mass. On Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> First Reconciliation will be celebrated and twenty young people are preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

### *Social Action Committee*

This is a small Committee of a committed core of people who are going to need new ideas. They are looking for young people aged 23 to 45 but the question is how to reach them. Last year we had the fair. Are people more willing to commit to a project and not to a committee? We can't expect students to actively participate; students are here to be students. We are witnessing to them.

Someone new is doing the Christmas baskets. Next week will be the last meeting for Sue until spring.

Martha is functioning on this committee as a representative of the Pastoral Council.

### Future observation of Thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving is the only National Holy Day. Fr. Ed suggested that we have a special Parish celebration in conjunction with Mass the evening before. We could share a simple meal. This would involve catechesis the month before.

### Community Building Event Discussion

This should occur prior to the beginning of Lent. The purpose is to build community. It was suggested that on the First of February we have a special "getting to know you" coffee hour after 10:30 Mass where we would ask new people to come to meet us and we could meet them. We could do the same thing during the student Mass with donuts and cider and tell the students that we would like to meet them and let them meet others. We are not concerned with numbers. Not about doing small things, it's doing small things with great love. Building community takes time. Bill and Elaine will do the coffee hour at the 10:30 Mass. Rebecca said that Newman will do the student cider and donuts. Margaret with Andrew and Rendell will coordinate this.

### Recruitment Committee

It was suggested that since we haven't been able to get the Liturgy, Hospitality, and Church Administration Committees up and running that we form a short-term "Recruitment Committee" to populate these committees. A notice will be put in the bulletin. Rosanne and Fr. Ed. offered to coordinate this.

### Retreat

It was felt that the possibility of having a Parish retreat should be explored. Rosanne works with a member of the retreat leadership team from Corpus Christi parish. She offered to contact her to see if she would be willing to attend one of our meetings.