

Evangelization Committee Minutes: St. Mary of the Hills

Location: Holy Family Regional School, room 312

Date: April 13, 2016 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Attendance: Karen Dudek, Jay Fedewa, Deb Valot, Clem Valot, Karen Schenk,
Beth Belesky, George Phillips, Susie Phillips, Hugh Buchanan, Mark Joyce

1. **Opening Prayer:** Hugh Buchanan

2. **Project Updates:**

#	Title	Leaders	Status
1	Parish Mission	Jay and all	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. George went over the survey results for those who filled out a survey. There were approximately 30 survey responses. Over 80 percent said the experience was overwhelmingly positive. To the question requesting attendees to become SMOTH volunteers, many said they are already volunteers, but some said they would be willing to join us. The comments showed that Richard Lane was very engaging, and his message was appreciated. Other specific comments about the venue, audio system, book sales, etc. have been captured. 2. The collections to support the mission financially both here at SMOTH and for St. Charles Lawanga were very successful. 3. A postcard advertising the mission was mailed to each household in the parish boundaries. Some people expressed that one problem with attendance was the timing – it was spring break for some schools and families. 4. Jay covered the registration results. There were 192 people, 121, and 118 people who signed in on the three nights. People did generally say that they had seen the postcard mailer. Attendees were 80% parishioners, about 20% other Catholics from other parishes, and two non-Catholics. 5. While Richard was in Detroit, he also spoke at Loyola High School, met some HS students at a restaurant near Rochester High, and delivered many cases of donated water to churches in Flint. 6. Paula Petkau will thank the cookie ministry for their support in providing the refreshments. Their donations were wonderful and, because the committee did not have to purchase refreshments, we were able to use that budget to purchase teaching DVDs for children, and create a children’s section in the library. 7. There was also discussion about how to reach the non-attending. Karen Dudek said that perhaps a program which is specifically tailored to them will be more attractive to them. That is the focus of programs like ChristLife, which will run again in the fall. We can also look to programs like Inter Varsity Christian Fellowship as a model for attracting the youth. Some attributes of events that attract the youth: the event needs to be big, popular, and have a theme. Karen will invite

			her daughter, Jessica, of IVCF, to speak to us at a future meeting.
2	Saint Paul Street Evangelization update	Mark	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Training scheduled for April 23. This program is endorsed by Archbishop Vigneron. 2. Mark went over the agenda, which starts at 9:00 after ½ hour of fellowship. There are about six workshops where participants will work in small groups. The program wraps up at 3:00. 3. There is a good workbook / booklet that will be used for the course. Deb will make copies and staple it, rather than pay for a printer to make booklets. 4. Mark has contacted a caterer and has some ideas for lunch. Deb said Jimmy Johns is good. Some options are make-your-own-sandwiches, with side salads, or have small “slider” sandwiches. Beth suggested that we should just watch the time, and maybe offer a couple of choices and just have the lunch items as grab-and-go. Mark will ask the caterer if she can do some premade sandwiches and grab and go cold food since we only have ½ hour for lunch. 5. We also need to plan the breakfast for the morning. Mark will contact committee members about bringing specific items. Phillips’ will bring orange juice. 6. The committee should be there at 8:15 AM.
3	Night-fever	Beth & Mark	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AOD will help with the planning. They have a defined program. We are on the AOD agenda for this event. 2. Beth said that we need a plan for the altar. We have the Divine Mercy image. Need to plan out the details. George mentioned the bright lighting that was part of Come Encounter Christ at St. Therese of Lisieux. We could talk to Maureen Durkis and the “Awaken” crew. We would have to clear this with Chris Gawal. 3. We also need a plan for all of the aspects of the event: the evening’s schedule, the volunteer contacts, the parking for volunteers, coordinating with Christ Kozlowski and SMYG, planning the mass and the meal for the volunteers, and coordinating with the booth at Borden Park. The purpose of the booth is to both invite people to NightFever, and have an opportunity to talk to the public about St. Mary’s. 4. Mark will ask Chris G from the AOD to give us a punch list of tasks. 5. For the booth, we should put together a plan of what we would distribute and how we would advertise our parish and its ministries. The booth crew would need to be separate from the Nightfever crew. The cost is not prohibitive (\$100 for an organization). For the booth some details that need to be thought through are the tent and the tables. We should also have information about the upcoming Discovering Christ program in the fall. 6. Susie will work with Karen Dudek to put together a one-page proposal to give to Father Stan to get his approval for the booth. She also suggested that we start meeting once per week after the SPSE

			<p>evangelization training to plan this event, and assign a point person for each of the main tasks.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Karen Shenk will get back to Rochester Hills about the booth as soon as it is approved by Father Stan. Karen determined after the last discussion that the cost for a booth is \$100 for non-commercial organizations. 8. Karen Shenk and Deb suggested that we put the NightFever information on the car hang tags. We need to have Chris K and the SMYG kids give the information as they give out the hang tags. 9. Mark or Beth will contact Chris G and put weekly meetings on the SMOTH calendar. Wednesdays are proposed as the day to meet.
4	Dialogue Gathering Sessions	Hugh and Susie	<p>Dialogue sessions are to provide input into the November symposium (synod). The participants are to be asked questions about how they came to know Christ. There are three sessions planned:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. May 21 at the Parish Council meeting: The agenda will be dedicated to this dialogue gathering. We will be sitting by Commissions. It will be a 3-hour commitment. (We need to let the commission members know this ahead of time so they can plan their day.) This is open to all parish leadership – parish council and all commission members and volunteers who are in attendance. Hugh will prepare a handout, and Hugh/Susie will announce and give a handout to the commission members at 8:00 AM Saturday. Also need to plan for the refreshments for May 21. 2. May 25 – evening prayer, starts at 7:00, table discussion, and large group sharing. Eventbrite registration will be required. Need to get communication out to the people who attended Discovering Christ. There will be articles in the bulletin inviting everybody as well, but tailored invitations to the DC attendees. We need to send emails 3 weeks before the session, which means we need to advertise at the end of April. The table leaders will be identified at the session. They do not need to be selected ahead of time. 3. June 12 – a Townhall format is scheduled after the 11:00 mass. There will be refreshments, questions, and participants are invited to write their comments on index cards and, especially, to stand up and share their comments. The meeting lasts two hours. There is food served – a light meal.
5.	Personal Invitation to residents of the area	George	<p>New Initiative: George suggested that we consider putting together two-person crews to go door to door before Discovering Christ or specifically invite to other events. A healing mass would be a good event to invite people to. There was generally a positive reaction from the group. We would need to get information from the city and some guidance from SPSE and then get Father Stan’s approval. The proposal would be to do this in August and September, while the weather is still good, and we could specifically invite the public to the fall session of Discovering Christ.</p>

3. Roundtable

- a. **Karen S** – Crosses will go up again on Saturday June 18. The nightly rosary will take place again while they are up.
- b. **Mark** – Would like to get the contact information for the people who attended the mission, to invite them to the SPSE. Mark will also contact the committee members individually to continue the planning and communicate needs for the SPSE and NighFever planning.
- c. **George** – Would like to thank everyone who is participating on the Evangelization Committee. We have about ten active members and it is a blessing. That is how we are able to do what we are doing. The agreement to start meeting weekly, as we just discussed, to support the NightFever planning is a demonstrating of the committee's commitment. Thank you to everyone! Amen!
- d. **Susie** – At a recent visit to St. Therese of Lisieux, George and Susie had an opportunity see the conference center there. It is welcoming and beautiful. There are pass-through's from the kitchen to the serving area, a carpeted seating area, attractive wall covering, and at least two modern projectors mounted on the ceiling. The room has dividers so it can be broken into multiple sections. It would be wonderful to have a useful room like this for outreach activities, as well as the many parish meetings, workgroups, study groups, etc. We should take another look at the usage of our current gym.

4. Closing Prayer: Karen Schenk

SMOTH Evangelization Committee Meetings:

St. Mary of the Hills – 7 – 9 p.m.

May 18 (WOF)

June 8 (WOF)

SMOTH Parish Council Meetings:

April 16

May 21 (Dialogue Gathering session for the synod preparation)

June 18

PAV Evangelization Committee Meetings: St. Mary of the Hills – St. Andrew's classroom

7 – 9 p.m.

April 25

May 23