

Evangelization Committee Minutes

Location: St Mary of the Hills

Date: March 11, 2015 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Attendance: Beth Belesky, Clem Valot, Deb Valot, George Phillips, Susie Phillips, Jay Fedewa

1. Opening Prayer (Clem Valot)

2. Guest Speaker: Chris Drouin, of Drouin Solutions, "Managing Online Presence"

- Chris's current clients are people who are too busy running their business to manage their social media accounts.... Chris provides a service: managing information.
- Social media is where most people go for their news; the most popular websites (by rank) being Facebook (2nd, after Google), YouTube (3rd), Linked-in (4th), Twitter (7th), and Pinterest (16th), and Instagram (growing).
- Members check sites multiple times per day, but the information must be fresh, interesting, and informative. It becomes unnecessary to keep "pushing" information to parishioners or the community by other means if they already visit these sites.
- The goal is to get people to your website, where the information and the "calls to action" are
- SMOTH has many groups and programs which could benefit from a managed social media presence: Christian Service, Stewardship/Volunteers, Education/Sacramental-prep, Knights of Columbus, SMYG, Young Adults, ChristLife, SVDP, etc., etc.
- Chris is an "air-traffic controller" – SMOTH people would feed info to Chris and he disseminates it and schedules its release to the various websites... has software to enable this scheduling
- Websites each have their own demographic following – we need to work with them all
- **The Committee was unanimous in seeing the value of this service. It is recommended that Chris Drouin work with Chris Kozlowski to plan the start-up of this service at St. Mary's, by looking at groups, calendaring, and goals, and begin with a focus on youth (High School) and young adults.**

3. ChristLife update (All)

a. Last Discovering Christ Session is 3/12/2015

- i. Over 100 participants and good feedback
- ii. Will ask for commitment to attend "Following Christ"

b. Following Christ is on SMOTH calendar (See dates on next page)

- i. St. Irenaeus does not have Following Christ scheduled yet
- ii. Retreat on May 16 is at HFRS (St. Mary's gym is not available)
- iii. Unfortunately, conflicts with Parish Council Meeting and SMOTH Confirmation

iv. NEEDS:

1. Open Eventbrite registration (Clem will ask Meghan Schuler)
2. Form planning team (Current planning team will meet 3/24 and 4/14)
3. Form Retreat team (Beth needs information on retreat schedule; the conflict with St. Mary's Confirmation will reduce volunteers who are available)
4. Schedule PRIESTS for May 16 reconciliation (Probably need 3)

c. Sharing Christ is on SMOTH calendar (See dates on next page)

- i. NEEDS: Purchase "Sharing Christ" course materials (from next budget year)

4. Vocations Committee update (George Phillips)

- a. New subcommittee; Father Stan is supportive
- b. Proposal for a Spring 2015 event for young adults, possibly with St. Andrew’s and PAV or St. Anastasia
- c. The Sunday evening 5:00 p.m. mass is popular with youth and young adults –
 - i. Will look into pizza or other refreshments with videos, and possible priest, seminarian, and nun attending, after the Sunday evening mass at St. Andrew’s or St. Anastasia

5. April Parish Council Meeting: EvC will Lead Song and Prayer (George Phillips)

- a. Proposal is to tie the worship and songs to Pentecost, use candles and readings from St. Paul. George has some ideas for the readings and music. Jay had some ideas as well.
- b. Will work with Dan Greig to coordinate music and readings.

6. Roundtable (All)

- a. Susie Phillips has looked into an electronic sign on John R. She has gathered some information about cost, about Rochester Hills ordinances, and learned that three local Catholic parishes have signs. She will call them to get their experiences. There is a request for money for an exploratory study in next year’s committee budget.

7. Closing Prayer (Susie Phillips)

Future Evangelization Committee Meetings:

4/22/2015	Wed	7 - 9 pm	Conference Room
5/13/2015	Wed	7 - 9 pm	Conference Room
6/17/2015	Wed	7 - 9 pm	East Overflow

Following Christ Schedule for 2015: (Includes coffee/dessert; does NOT include dinner.)

Session	Date	Topic	Time	Location
1	16-Apr	Daily Personal Prayer	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	St. Mary's Gym
2	23-Apr	Hearing God in Scripture	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	St. Mary's Gym
3	30-Apr	The Power of the Sacraments	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	St. Mary's Gym
4	7-May	Forgiving One Another	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	St. Mary's Gym
5	14-May	The Spirit-Empowered Life	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	St. Mary's Gym
RETREAT	16-May	The World, The Flesh, and The Devil	Registration: 8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	HFRS, South Campus, Multi-purpose room
6	21-May	Advancing the Mission of the Church	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	St. Mary's Gym
7	28-May	Celebration Session	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	St. Mary's Gym

Sharing Christ Dates for 2015:

Weekly Sessions: Thursday October 1 – November 5, St. Mary’s gym
Retreat: Saturday November 7, Location TBD