

Evangelization Committee Minutes

Location: St Mary of the Hills

Date: April 22, 2015 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Attendance: Karen Schenck, Deb Valot, Clem Valot, Mark Joyce, Jay Fedewa, George Phillips, Susie Phillips

1. Opening Prayer

2. Finalize plan to lead Worship/Song at the April 25 Parish Council meeting:

- a. Reviewed the plan submitted by George and Susie. The themes are “new life,” specifically, “new life in Christ,” and the call to be evangelists.

3. Contacting Inactive Parishioners – request from the Parish Council

- a. The committee discussed lots of ideas, from door hangers to mail-outs to phone calls. The scope was also discussed – from strictly the inactive parishioner list given by the parish office, to homes in the surrounding area. The idea of giving a hang-tag with parish information to cars who park in the lot on the night of the Rochester Hills fireworks was also discussed. We will present these ideas to the parish council for feedback. The committee is willing to coordinate these activities with possible help from other groups when manpower is needed. Karen Schenk will look into some prices.

4. ChristLife update

- a. Following Christ is going well. (Session 4 complete on May 7.) Retreat planning is going well. It is unknown if we can have Eucharistic Adoration due to the logistics of being in the school and not in the church building. (Deb will ask Father Stan what he thinks 5/11/2015)
- b. Father Alex will be leading the worship. Music is TBD – maybe not needed with Father Alex’s leadership. (DVD’s delivered to Father Alex for preview on May 9.)
- c. Working to get next year’s Discovering Christ on HFRS calendar. Waiting for feedback from HFRS. (Confirmed with Parish Council on April 25 that the SMOTH kitchen will be unavailable starting in January 2016 for renovation.)
- d. The committee has enough money to purchase the Sharing Christ materials from the current year budget.

5. Vocations Committee update

- a. New subcommittee; Father Stan is supportive. Tentative “Vocations Evening” planned Sunday Nov.1 at St. Andrew’s after 5:00 mass. Joint event with St. Andrew’s vocation committee; will invite the PAV. Need committee members. We need to give St. Andrew’s a proposed agenda and plan. Some ideas: Tom Merlo, Father Steve Pullis, Dominican sisters. Note that this is All Saints Day. Can we have a tie in to the theme of vocations?

6. Presentation to Parish Council April 25 to address Strategic Concerns/Drivers #2: “We let most aspects of our culture “evolve” rather than deliberately creating a parish culture to support our vision”

- a. Susie and George performed an hour-by-hour analysis of the hours that the gym was used for all activities (from April 1,2014 to March 31, 2015), as well as the number of hours when it is not scheduled. The analysis shows very low use as a “gym,” defined as needing a tile floor and/or basketball hoops. The data analysis of the current use of gymnasium, vs. the need for a

welcoming/inviting conference center room to support Evangelization and other parish activities will be presented to the parish council.

7. Electronic sign proposal

- a. Still need committee members. Need to refine the data that we have and make more parish contacts and then present the information to the building committee.

8. Thank-you received on behalf of Confirmation Students

- a. Deb Valot gave copies of the “Did Adam and Eve have Belly Buttons” book that the committee had purchased previously to Sherry Link for the Confirmation Candidates. They books were distributed at the Confirmation retreat. Sherry and the confirmation candidates were very appreciative.

9. Roundtable

- a. Karen Schenck reported that Janet Sheerin has been continuing to lead prayer intercessors for the fruitfulness of the ChristLife program. We owe her a thank you. (Susie has contacted her by email 5/1/15)
- b. Chris Kozlowski is in talks with Christ Drouin about introducing the media marketing program at St. Mary’s.
- c. Karen Schenk told the group the story of a young girl who participated in the Washington DC March for Life, met Archbishop Vigneron, and received a follow-up letter from him at Easter. She was very impressed. The letter was a call to be an evangelist. The take-away is that a personal contact to a young person can be very impactful.
- d. Mark Joyce has looked into the St. Paul Street Evangelization program. Maybe we should have them come to St. Mary’s and present to us next year after Sharing Christ program is complete. Mark will contact them again to see what their events and available programs are. This will be on the project list for next year.
- e. NetUSA.org – check it out. Supported by Deb and Clem. They stay with volunteer families from the parish they are visiting. Young volunteers came to St. Mary’s for the 7th/8th grade confirmation retreat. They are a very dedicated group of young people.
- f. Possible future activity, suggested by Susie. How can we update parish census information in a creative way? Having current information would support many activities/initiatives at the parish.

10. Closing Prayer

- a. George gave the closing prayer.

Minutes submitted by Susie Phillips 5/10/2015

(See next page for additional schedules and information.)

Remaining Evangelization Committee Meetings:

5/13/2015	Wed.	7 – 9 pm	1. Susan Kowalski will cover learnings from the ChristLife National Conference, and 2. Open Items 3. Election of Officers	Conference Room
6/17/2015	Wed.	7 – 9 pm	1. Proposed Pot Luck dinner and 2. Brainstorming for next year	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 Schedule for 2015:

Weekly Sessions: Thursday October 1 – November 5, St. Mary's gym

Retreat: Saturday November 7, Location TBD

Discovering Christ Schedule for 2016: (Tentative)

Weekly Sessions: Thursday January 21 – Thursday March 10, requested at HFRS

Retreat: Saturday February 27, requested at HFRS