

Evangelization Committee Minutes

Location: St Mary of the Hills, West Overflow Room

Date: Sep. 16, 2015 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Attendance: Janet Sheerin, Beth Belesky, Jay Fedewa, Karen Dudek, Karen Schenk, Clem Valot, Deb Valot, George Phillips, Susie Phillips

1. Opening Prayer

2. ChristLife update, Clem and All

- a. Sharing Christ: Sessions will start October 1. Eventbrite is open. Smaller group than Following Christ is anticipated. Location will be changed to St. Andrew's room.
- b. Following Christ/ Sharing Christ AOD Conference Sep. 12 & Meeting with Dave Nodar Sep. 11:
 - i. Clem Valot, Deb Valot, Karen Schenk, George Phillips and Susie Phillips attended
- c. Discovering and Following Christ calendar:
 - i. Discovering Christ currently scheduled to start in January 2016, and Following Christ scheduled to start in April 2016 using HFRS multi-purpose room for sessions and retreat. Discovering Christ planning meeting will be held October 12.
 - ii. Renovation of the St. Mary's kitchen is expected to create difficulty for volunteers running the program.

3. **EvC meeting schedule:** Evangelization Committee meetings for this year are on the calendar. They are scheduled for: October 14, November 11, December 9, January 13, February 17, March 16, April 13, May 18 and June 8.

4. Courage Conference Summary, Karen Dudek

- a. **Courage ministry conference in August was exceptional. Everyone needs to know how to speak to these issues.** EWTN has a series running all week – five parts. It includes segments on Medical issues, Family, Pastoral Care, etc. Highly recommended viewing.

5. Roundtable:

- a. **St. Mary's will be co-hosting a "Called and Gifted" workshop** with St. Irenaeus, and St. Joseph of Lake Orion. It will be held on November 13-14 at St. Irenaeus.
- b. **AOD –sponsored "Come, Encounter Christ" series is a series of 3-day, "Awaken-like" encounter events, like a parish mission.**
 - i. Coming to Our Lady, Queen of Families on Oct. 5-7. The Dudek family is providing the music for this event.
 - ii. Others will be held at other parishes through June 2016.
 - iii. See total schedule at www.aod.org/encounter

6. Guest Speaker: Nick Jorgensen, AOD Evangelization Coordinator for NW Region – "AOD New Evangelization Model"

- a. **The New Evangelization: striving for a cultural transformation: a "new normal"**
- b. **Model for New Evangelization: 7 steps**
 - i. Initial witness and invitation, Community Building, Proclamation of the Kerygma, Faith Formation and Catechesis, Spiritual and Discipleship Formation, Ministry and Outreach, Transformation of Culture
 - ii. Parishes can use this model to "put themselves on paper" and look where existing programs fit, and where the gaps are

- iii. The AOD office has resources and ideas that can help parishes
- iv. It is recommended that we invite Nick to speak at an upcoming parish council meeting. (Joint meeting preferable so many can hear the message and opportunities.)
- v. Examples of potential programs:
 - 1. Night Fever – did this at the Shrine of Little Flower for the Dream Cruise. Over 700 people responded to the invitation, came in, lit a candle or prayed, and saw the inside of the church. Confessions were available.
 - a. Suggestion is to pursue this for the Rochester Hills fireworks next June.
 - 2. Coming soon: “Formed” – like Netflix for Catholics
 - a. Parish buys a membership – all groups and parishioners can use. Great programming available. Multiple groups collaborating to provide the total package.
 - 3. Coming soon: “Unbound” – will be rolled out at the clergy conference next year. Goal: helps release from sins and weaknesses.
- vi. Discussion of typical non-practicing Catholics.
 - 1. Often had some break from the church or tragedy in their lives. Need one-on-one outreach.
- vii. “Getting Practical” tips
 - 1. Smile,
 - 2. use intercessory prayer,
 - 3. use the sacraments as point of entry,
 - 4. pulpit announcements,
 - 5. hospitality,
 - 6. monthly holy hours,
 - 7. confessions at convenient times,
 - 8. personal testimony is always a powerful draw,
 - 9. make it easy to find out what is going on and where it is happening,
 - 10. minister to the needs of people who are hurting (look into specific, needed ministries),
- viii. Suggested reading, James Malone “Divine Renovation,” – accurate picture of typical American parish
- ix. Suggestions for parish:
 - 1. Get everyone on the same page; recognize our current situation; use personal testimony and one-on-one invitation to get more volunteers
 - 2. What are the charisms of our parish? Hone down the number. Focus on some.

7. Other project discussion is tabled until October meeting due to now more meeting time.

8. Closing Prayer