

# 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](http://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**