

## **Evangelization Committee**

Location: St Mary of the Hills, East Overflow Room

Date: Mar. 15, 2017     7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

**Attendance:** Jay Fedewa, Denise Kay, Mark Joyce, Karen Schenk, Hugh Buchanan, Ron Valade, Deb Valot, Thaddeus Ezech, Theresa Ghormley, Jim Ghormley, George Phillips, Susie Phillips, Beth Belesky

### **1. Opening Prayer (George)**

### **2. New Business:**

#### **a. “Formed” coming to St. Mary’s (Deb, George, Jay)**

- i. This is the Easter “giveaway” instead of a book or CD. It is like Netflix, but with Catholic content. There seems to be a lot for young people.
- ii. Discussion on advertising & distribution from book give-away lessons learned:
  1. There will be a gift-card handed to the attendees. The suggestion is to announce the gift and explain what it is about at mass. We should ask priests to explain what this is about.
  2. Schedule people to do the hand-out after mass early – we didn’t have good volunteer coverage at some of the Christmas masses.
  3. SMOTH will monitor the usage and see how the usage goes.

#### **b. Newcomer Dinners and other Use of the New Kitchen (potential new project – would need a volunteer to lead)**

- i. Need to discuss with Father Stan, Fellowship, Knights of Columbus, etc.
- ii. What is the planned use for the kitchen this coming year?
- iii. Father Stan would like to see the Newcomer’s Dinner back
- iv. Is there interest in any new programs such as semi-annual “Bring a Friend to Mass” with a free pancake breakfast after?
- v. This is a new idea to think about and discuss again next month.

### **3. Project Updates:**

| <b>#</b> | <b>Title</b>   | <b>Leaders</b> | <b>Status</b>  |
|----------|--|----------------|--|
| <b>1</b> | <b>2016-17 EvC Budget use</b>  | All            | Susie asked Arnie for status. 2017-18 budget has been submitted to Arnie for all of our current projects plus “yard signs” cost was requested in the new budget.   |
| <b>2</b> | <b>Booth at “Festival of the Hills” fireworks/ This is a SPSE event.</b> | Jay            | Jay will look into cost in April. Plan for staffing – for booth and for Nightfever. People were glad to see Catholics at the Festival-of-the-Hills last year. The small crew handed out hundreds of rosaries and miraculous medals. We should solicit help at the April Parish Council meeting. Mark will get with Bob Wilson, the festival chairman for SPSE, to ask if he can support again this year. |

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| 3 | <b>St. Paul Street Evangelization</b>  | Mark       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We are on the 2017 Nightfever calendar for Rochester Hills fireworks June 28. Mark has been talking to Chris Gowal at the AOD. Need to get with Dan Greig to see how he would like to support with music. Do we want to bring in other instruments (violins, etc.)? Music is very, very important for Nightfever.</li> </ul>   |
| 4 | <b>Contacting New Parishioners</b>   | Beth       | Received list of 23 new members for Jan/Feb from Laura C on March 9. Jim and Theresa and Karen and Mark will help make calls.   |
| 5 | <b>Vocations Committee</b>   | Susie      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussed at Education Commission February 18. Susie committed to pull together a plan. It will be multi-faceted, including leaning on AOD resources – not just one event. Started with discernment weekend bulletin articles. The vocation chalices are available if we want to bring them back for families to pray for vocations.</li> <li>Ron asked what we do to encourage young altar servers. This may be related to vocations. Ss. Cyril &amp; Methodius and St. Kieran have large numbers of young altar servers being mentored by the older ones.</li> <li>Thaddeus suggested that we engage the children and their interest in the church will grow. It may be gradual, but start when they are young. Make it fun for them. Recognize them.</li> <li>Hugh and Beth will take to the Worship Commission. Could also talk to those who organize the altar servers at Ss. Cyril &amp; Methodius.</li> <li>It was noted that the interest and participation with the church starts with the family – we need to get family support. What about the effect of home schooling families? How do we reach out to them? Karen will inquire about the home schooler’s group. The home schooler’s group may be interested in joining SMYG as well.</li> </ul> |
| 6 | <b>Yard Signs and Other ideas for advertising St. Mary’s by Parishioners</b> | Karen, Jay | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Karen suggested <b>yard signs</b> for parishioners to put in their yards with a slogan such as “Ask me about St. Mary of the Hills.” Karen has thought of some phrases that look good. We will think about them more and talk next month. Jay may have a source for getting the cost estimate and printing the signs as well. What about restrictions on putting signs in the yard? (continued)</li> <li>Theresa suggested that we use the yard sign idea to</li> </ol>  |

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|    |   |                             | <p>welcome new parishioners.</p> <p>As for timing, what would be the roll-out?<br/>George recalled that Kensington or Woodside had done something like this recently.</p> <p>3. Thaddeus recalled the “I believe bumper sticker (with picture of the Monstrance) from his former parish.</p> <p>This discussion yielded the three distinct ideas above (1), (2), and (3). George and Jay will take these ideas into the Executive Committee for discussion.</p>   |
| 7  | <b>Library</b>                                | George and All              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussed plan for better location and usage. Clem suggested previously to put actual book shelves where the carts are. What about moving the carts into the gym during coffee and doughnuts? Book carts should be better labeled as a lending library. It would be good to sort and display the books by topic. That way, someone who is grieving, for example, could look for a book on the topic. Use of the East Overflow on the back wall would provide some room. Karen suggested a sign for “Lending Library” and try putting the carts in the gym after mass to see if we can increase usage. We could also build shelves and slide the carts below the shelves, but still be able to move them around. Jay and George will talk to Father Stan about these ideas.</li> <li>We need to create a purchase list for Spring 2017, but are waiting for budget status. Denise submitted one purchase idea.</li> </ul> |
| 8  | <b>EvC representatives to the Commissions</b> | Susie and all               | <p>GOAL: 2 per commission. Current list is:<br/>Christian Service – Karen, Carol Birch ??<br/>Education - Susie<br/>Fellowship – Jay, Denise Kay<br/>Stewardship – Clem, and Mark Joyce<br/>Worship – Beth and Hugh</p> <p><b><i>What commission did Carol B select?</i></b></p>  |
| 9  | <b>Prayer Teams</b>                           | Beth and Worship Commission | <p>Beth and Hugh have talked to the Worship Commission. The proposal is to offer prayer teams of two people to pray over people after mass. It was talked about at the Worship Commission and will be discussed again this month. There is quite a bit of planning: not only the where and the when, but “the who” - we would need to identify several prayer teams. Beth is working on a plan to present to Father Stan.</p>   |
| 10 | <b>Weekly Evangelization Bulletin Column</b>  | Susie, Theresa, Jim         | <p>Susie presented a one-pager to present to Father Stan to explain why we would like weekly bulletin space, and what the columns would contain. Jim and Theresa volunteered to facilitate. After adding any feedback on the one-pager received from the group, Susie and Theresa and Jim will schedule a time to talk to Father Stan.</p>  |

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| 11 | <b>Electronic Sign proposal</b> | George | Exciting news! We will be using this year’s CSA campaign to complete the funding for the sign. Father Stan said that the sign can be used for both “inspirational” and “informational” use. Susie passed around a “Missed Opportunities” list, with over 150 SMOTH activities from the last calendar year that we could have advertised with the sign. There should be some “usage guidelines” which keep the sign to its purpose of reaching out to the public. |

**4. Roundtable (8:00-8:10)**

- a. Ron Valade suggested that for the new bulletin column we develop a logo – something eye catching to call attention to the article. This would be something that we should also use on our correspondence as well.
- b. Beth has two CD’s – from Sherry Wedell and Dr. Alan Hunt that she is offering to share.
- c. Karen announced that there will be a discussion on March 26 at noon on Humanae Vitae. This is in support of our Lenten charity this year – Right to Life / Lifespan.
- d. Mark Joyce had several updates:
  - i. Went to the Lenten Symposium at Ss. Cyril & Methodius. One of our new Bishops, Bishop Fisher, was there.
  - ii. Awaken next date: March 24 at St. Mary’s in Royal Oak,
  - iii. The Synod is being talked about on “The Choices we Face” on EWTN.
  - iv. Mark also has some St. Paul Street Evangelization pamphlets to share, and is asking for anyone interested to see him.
  - v. Post-meeting note: SMOTH is looking for volunteer drivers to help to bring bagged items (food, clothing etc.) during the day from St. Hugo's to OCJ for jail ministry on April 5. Contact Arnie to help.

**5. Closing Prayer (Hugh)**



**Sharing Christ Planning (Deb).** Deb presented the schedule from Clem, along with a packet of the weekly meeting topics. The first session is March 30, and the 7<sup>th</sup> and last session is the retreat on May 13. There was discussion about contacting people who attended Following Christ last time. Susie will write a bulletin article to invite people as well.



| <b>SMOTH Evangelization Committee Meetings</b> | <b>SMOTH Parish Council Meetings</b> | <b>Parish Council Prayer Leader for the Parish Council Meeting</b> |
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| --   | Mar. 18                              | Youth  |
| Apr. 19, EOF                                   | Apr. 22                              | Christian Service  |
| May. 17, EOF                                   | May. 20                              | Staff  |
| Jun. 14, EOF                                   | Jun. 17                              | Finance  |