

St. Mary of the Hills
Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

Date: October 21, 2017

Present: George Phillips, Jay Fedewa, Meghan Schuler Todd, Susie Phillips, Carol Gunther, Jim Armistead, Clem Valot, Bill Hill, Cheryl Garneau, Beth Belesky, Sam Guerra, Hugh Buchanan, John Schuler, Denise Kay

Meeting commenced: 9:50 AM

Opening Prayer

George Phillips

President's Thoughts

George Phillips

Theme: knowledge, awareness, and understanding

Conclusion: know, share, and defend the Faith

OLD BUSINESS

1. September 2017 Minutes approval- motion to approve, second. *Minutes approved.*
2. Chapel Prayer Leader and Hospitality Leader
 - a. Chapel Prayer Leader- Suggestion was made in the opening chapel prayer session that Dan Grieg will lead the prayer and singing in the session and then we will focus on the Unleash the Gospel modules. Each commission will facilitate the discussion for the modules every month based on the signup sheet.
 - b. Hospitality Leader- The commission that is assigned to be the chapel prayer leader will also bring the snacks and drinks for the month.
3. Top Two Strategic Concerns
 - a. JOY- The stewardship commissions "Joy" weekend will be a great way to get parishioners further involved- expand

NEW BUSINESS

1. Unleash the Gospel Review Plan Susie Phillips
2. Unleash the Gospel Reflections Guide- Module 1 All
 - a. Commission Meeting Discussion
 - i. Fellowship- how they can put "unleash the gospel" into the activities that they plan. Want to take on the task of planning more activities that bring in individuals from outside the parish.
 - ii. Events that will bring individuals from outside the parish will be "shallow entry points" to bringing new people into our church

- iii. Christian Service- discussed how to make St. Mary's more visible in their service projects. One example was to include little business cards with St. Mary's information with a verse on the back. Another example was to make yarn cross necklaces that volunteers can make these necklaces and then wear them when they participate in service projects.
- iv. Worship-The committee discussed how we need to move from maintenance congregation to a missionary one and encourage parishioners to not just maintain their faith but to live it. Concentration was on teaching with the homilies and creating themes from Advent and Lent and having families be able to use and discuss what was presented in the homilies. Idea of having those attending mass to wear name tags a few times a year and to introduce themselves to each other before mass.

3. Unleash the Gospel Action Item

All

- a. Intercessory prayer teams should be established by December 2017 (see page 35).
 - i. We don't have an organized team but do have a Jail Ministry where we receive names from the jail of prisoners who would like parishioners to pray for them.
 - ii. Rosary is said in the chapel every Friday at 5pm.
 - iii. Prayer Chain for those who need prayers immediately
 - iv. There is not a coordinator but maybe we need more awareness or make a request to these specific groups to include this phrase within their groups.
 - v. Highlight this action item in the homily or the bulletin.
 - b. Create a small team to prayer for the mission of Unleash the Gospel and the intentions of the parish leadership and their goals.
 - i. Suggestions- have parish at large pray for the Synod and the mission at the end of each mass, include in prayers of the faithful
 - c. Conclusion:
 - i. Susie will write a letter to Fr. Stan with the suggestions and ideas and have him give us direction as to what he would like to see and do
 - ii. Beth will provide copy of AOD's manual that might provide clarity and direction on this topic (see AOD Prayer and Intercession Team Manual)
- ### 4. Meet and Greet Survey
- a. We have passed out this survey to those after mass at coffee and donuts and asked what people like the best and what suggestions they have.
 - b. Parish Council received a letter about the applause after the reflection song and individual expressed opinion about not having it and suggested other alternates of when we can have the applause
 - c. Discussion- Worship has discussed issue many times and will bring to Fr.

Meeting Concluded: 11:45 AM