

St Mary's Education Commission Minutes, 4=21-2018

Attendance: Present: Samantha Guerra, Peggy Casing, Meghan Schuler Todd, Tom Wietchy, Deb Valot, and Cheryl Garneau. Absent: Sam Corrión .

The Meeting began with Samantha briefly reviewing the Synod Discussion in the Chapel. Someone mentioned that with these discussions we see “pieces” of the “Unleash the Gospel,” but not the document as a whole. Some could say though that it is easier to deal with the “whole” in smaller “parts.” Samantha then went on to introduce Deb Valot to the Commission. Deb said that she would be replacing Suzie Phillips as the Evangelization’s Representative to the Education Commission. We warmly welcome Deb and are very thankful for the work Suzie did in her Evangelization Committee efforts and for the effort she put into our Education Commission work, especially her “championing” of our efforts to promote and lobby for Youth and Young Adult Programs. Samantha per directions from the parish Volunteer Coordinator asked if anyone could volunteer to help the weekend of May 5-6 for “Name Tag Weekend.”

Old Business: “Youth Mass”: Samantha commented that she liked the way the Youth Mass turned out. There were a few “bumps,” but in general it was well received. She said that next time it might be good to just keep the Altar Servers who were scheduled to serve that Mass. It’s necessary to mentor the Readers, Eucharistic Servers, and Ushers. It is important that the Worship Commission and a Committee of SMYG be actively involved in the process. “Flat ‘Stan’ ley”: It appears that someone else in the Parish is thinking of using the “Flat Stanley” concept? In Church? On Vacation? This was to be a Social Media idea of Meghan’s and Samantha’s that would be coordinated with the Bulletin/Church. As discussed, the idea is to have a Cut-Out given at Vacation Bible School or before Memorial Day with the recipients contacting the Church sometime during the summer as they were traveling. Peggy, Samantha, and Meghan will work on this. “Graduation Mass”: Both Meghan and Samantha will coordinate with Laura Corrión who is the Parish POC who collects the names of the Graduates and will do the Advertising. Meghan and Samantha will continue to look for a Gift(s) for the graduates and will coordinate with the Archdiocese to provide Spiritual contacts with the proposed College our graduates will be attending. “New Members” : Again, present members are asked to scour the St. Mary’s community and offer invitations to possible future Education Commission members.

New Business/Updates: Samantha mentioned that while she will continue to be Education Commission Chairperson, per rules of the Commission, she could not be the Education Council Representative to the Parish Council. So someone else will have to do that (unless there can be some dispensation ☺). Peggy announced that the Topic for next year’s GIFT Program would be Social Justice. Peggy said now and in the past that this Unit is challenging because some of the differing views about some of these social/moral issues. As we know, in recent years various social issues can be polarizing. That being said, this year’s GIFT Program will deal with Social Issues. Peggy also informed the group that the Archdiocese was rolling out a list of Diocesan Mandated Religious Curriculum goals for both its parochial schools’ religious programs as well as those for the Parish Religious Education Programs. Peggy said that

previous Guidelines were more general—these are more specific and tie in with the Unleash the Gospel Program where “Encounter,” “Growth,” and “Witness” are the focus of the faith-based curriculum.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Wietchy