

St. Mary's Education Commission Minutes, 1-20-2018

Attendance: Present: Peggy Casing, Meghan Todd, Tom Wietchy, Samantha Guerra, Cheryl Garneau, and Susie Phillips. Absent: Sam Corrion.

Samantha opened the Meeting by following up on the Education Commission's Synod discussion from Unleash the Gospel, Module 4, Guideposts 2 and 3 where the Apostles found renewed strength from the Holy Spirit to zealously proclaim their Faith. Cheryl mentioned that a strong personal commitment is important. Suzie said different churches can have a different feel to them and how they might manifest the Spirit. Some noted that it's important to recognize how other churches invite outsiders to their church. Someone brought up the fact that since the Homily is such an important part of the Mass, that more time might be spent on a longer meditation after the Homily.

As part of **Old Business**, Samantha wanted to email Sam Corrion and discuss what would be the best date for the Youth Mass. The first date discussed was April 7th. Now there's a question that since that week would be Spring Break for the schools, would that be a good weekend to have the Mass? Would some Saturday in May be better? The decision has to be made soon. Some reminded that it's important to have good readers, and that there has to be some time put in for preparation. Discussion then turned to the proposed high school Graduation Brunch which Meghan has been researching. She wants to connect with colleges in the area where our Graduates might be attending and supply the graduates with information on the Catholic community on that campus. Educating these graduates is important. Members stated that often people don't always understand what the Church teaches and this leads to confusion. Good homilies help, but there is a need for the Church to do more in communicating about "sensitive" and "taboo" issues. There is a need among the Laity to read Scripture and listen to the Homily. It might be good to maybe extend the time at Mass to reflect more on what is being Read and Spoken.

Concerning **New Business**, there was a notice that the "Christ Life" program, part of the 21 week "Discovery Christ" program, will meet starting this February to learn more about our Faith. Childcare and Facilitators will be available. Also there will be a "How to" booklet on our Church website on ways to "foster and facilitate" Better Communication.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Wietchy

