

University Parish of Christ Sun of Justice
Pastoral Council Meeting
Tuesday, October 14, 2003

Present: Fr. Ed Kacerguis, Robin Chin, Margaret Leathem, Bill Webster, Martha Walsh, Sue Gutenman, Rosanne Rose, Vivien McNaughton, Andrew Hill, Rendell Torres

Absent: Janina Hill, Leah Smith

Faith Formation:

Rosanne and Margaret led the Faith Formation. Rosanne charted responses from the previously distributed personality inventory and helped to interpret results in terms of our communication skills and leadership styles. Margaret suggested that we hold the results up in prayer.

Pastor's Report:

1. Newman Foundation

The Chair of the Pastoral Council will now be on the Newman Foundation Board as an ex officio member. The Foundation bylaws are being changed to reflect this decision.

2. Expansion of the dialysis center

The dialysis center is expanding. It is a win-win situation for them and us. We are cooperating with the expansion and they will assist us with drainage. Letters of agreement have been submitted to the Board.

3. Finances and Lenten Wednesdays

Our challenge grant has been met and then folded into a bigger grant. This will allow us to go out of the normal channels for Faith Formation and get nationally known speakers for Lenten Wednesdays. The theme next year will be "God and Science." The editor of *Cross Currents*, a major journal in the country today, has agreed to take five of the talks and make them part of one of their special issues. One of the speakers will be a molecular biologist from St. Louis University. A flyer will be developed by Christmas and will be distributed on campus and all over the diocese. The format will remain the same: Mass followed by a potluck meal, and then the talk. The talk, however, will be longer, around 45 minutes with additional time for questions.

We are only able to afford speakers of this caliber because of the grant.

4. Twinning with Sacred Heart Church in Cape Town, South Africa

A proposal was made to “twin” with a project in Archdiocese of Cape Town, South Africa. They are starting up with a Church that has been closed. When asked what they needed; their first response was prayer. They can also use financial help as well. \$100 will go a long way to purchase candles, bread, wine security guard and etc. A can will be put out and parishioners will be asked to contribute \$1.00/month.

The Church is across the street from a Vocational Training School for runaway and homeless boys run by the Selesians. They hope to revitalize a section of the city. They will be sending us leather goods to sell.

The consensus was that this should move forward on this project.

5. Deanery Meeting

There was a Deanery Meeting today. It was very positive. There will be a reconfiguration of the clusters. The major issue is that of personnel.

6. Virtus training

Virtus is a company doing training in response to the sexual abuse crisis. Background checks are now being conducted on all personnel. The Parish staff will be attending on Nov. 4th.

We have a copy of the Diocesan handbook regarding sexual abuse policies that is available for anyone to look at. We been ahead of the game and have put out information as soon as it becomes available on our magazine rack.

Our diocese had to undergo scrutiny by the Virtus Board. They are very happy with the general direction the Diocese has taken, what has been done and what we are doing.

7. Other

The Adult Education Program is continuing with around 30 people attending each class.

Reports from Committees:

1. *Social Concerns Committee*

The Peace and Justice Commission will be offering items for sale from Central and South America on December 6 and 7.

Twice a month we collect for Unity and Bethany House. The current coordinators Al and Ora Shongar will no longer be able to continue. It was suggested that we ask that the Mass Coordinators assume this responsibility for their particular Mass. The 10:30 AM Mass is all set, Jack Ryan has agreed to do it. There was some discussion and it was agreed that we should look at this more closely.

Kathy Spain is doing a good job on the Bereavement Committee. People are available to greet and to provide refreshments afterwards. She has also been providing Communion for the sick. It was suggested that a note be put in the bulletin once a month to see if anyone else would like to be ministered to in this way.

It suggested that we ask community members to host students for Thanksgiving. Sign-up sheets will be going up.

2. *Faith Formation*

There are 25 families registered; 25 students in grades 1 to 4; and 20 students in grades 5 to 10. There has been a great response from people who want to be catechists.

In RCIA there are two confirmation candidates. Rosanne shared the RCIA Pastoral Plan that she developed with the Council.

Sunnyside has asked us to provide Thanksgiving baskets and the children and their families are working on them.

Seven High School Students will be going to the National Youth Conference on Nov. 13-16.

Confirmation preparation for High School students will begin in December.

3. *Liturgy*

Anne Cassidy and Al Saracini at this point in time are acting as a Liturgy Committee. They will be holding training for Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors. There has been a request for a Community Healing Service.

The goal of the Liturgy Committee is good liturgy; not to do something new just to do something new.

We need to check the ministry sign-up sheets to see if anyone else in the parish expressed interest in working on this committee.

Parish Convening

Registration is due tomorrow. All forwarded information to all Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors.

Goals for the Year

Preparing for the Activities Fair. Janina will organize that.

Bulletin will be updated. It is hoped that the new format will be ready for the first Sunday of Advent

Other

It was brought up that when people practice intincture, they are also preventing those who have wheat allergies from receiving Communion. A notice will be placed in the bulletin.