

University Parish of Christ Sun of Justice  
Pastoral Council Meeting  
Tuesday, November 11, 2003

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

Absent: Leah Smith, Martha Walsh, Janina Hill

Faith Formation:

Faith Formation was led by those present who attended the October Parish Convening.

Pastor's Report:

*Virtus Training*

Virtus Training was completed by Parish staff. The Diocese is requiring that, in addition to having a background check, all those involved with young people attend the training. Until December 31<sup>st</sup> of this year, the Diocese will pay the \$30 cost training cost per person.

*Advent and Thanksgiving*

The Blue Books are on order for Advent.  
A sign-up sheet for Thanksgiving dinner, to match students not going home with Parish families, has gone up.

*Lent*

The Black Books are on order for Lent  
A synopsis of this years Lenten series will appear in Cross Currents.  
Looking ahead, we are investigating into the possibility of getting Kathleen O'Connor, a scripture scholar, and Jim Puglisi, an Atonement Friars as speakers for 2005.

*Knights of Columbus*

One of the students is trying to start up a Knights of Columbus chapter in our parish. So far there are 10 to 11 students interested. Thirty are needed to start. Membership has to be from our parish and the RPI campus including adults as permanent members. There are chapters on other college campuses but they are not part of parishes.

## Committee Reports:

### *Social Concerns:*

#### Food Collections:

Bimonthly -The major problem has been with people not showing up to do the collection. Bill and Elaine will try to do it on Saturday evenings. This effort has to have some organization because of money is involved.

Regional Food Bank Christmas Appeal at Crossgates – we have participated in the past but we are not doing it this year. It has been a problem getting volunteers to help. Many people find it difficult to do.

#### Community Building:

In order to meet new people on a one to one basis we need to have community building activities such as a Pot Luck dinner, Cabin Fever night, Pizza night, game night without dinner and desserts. .

Seven people now serve on the committee.

### *Faith Formation:*

Seven of our young people will be going to the Catholic Youth Conference on November 13<sup>th</sup> through 16<sup>th</sup>. The theme is River of Life.

During the conference, seventy Bishops will be in dialogue with the young people in a Youth Congress that will result in a paper. The theme is Social Justice Through the Lens of Poverty.

The two keynote speakers are Bud Welch and Craig Kielburger (who began Free the Children.)

Our youth will be at the 10:30 mass this weekend where Fr. Ed. will offer a blessing.

More information can be found on the website [www.nfcym.org](http://www.nfcym.org).

## Discussion regarding additional Advent activities

We have to remember that:

Advent only has four Sundays

There is a Sacred Concert, a Holy Day (Immaculate Conception), a communal celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation

It is the season for the student running; their time is little and limited. The Faculty is getting ready to correct papers.

The Social Calendar for so many people is full getting ready for the holidays.

It was suggested that we put together a bus to go the Cathedral of St. John the Divine next year for the Winter solstice – the Paul Winter Concert. Rosanne will look into the cost and report back.

By Laws Changes

Fr. Ed proposed acceptance, Rendell seconded.