

Parish Council Meeting Notes

11/12/2014

Attendance: Fr. Marc, Deacon Bill, Ken Conti, Sal Gioe, Nickolas Sarbanis, Kevin Sullivan, Robert Messier, and Cheryl Follien

Question addressed about keeping the 2nd Wednesday of the month due some members not being able to attend. Decision to keep the date due to Father's schedule was upheld.

Purpose of the meeting was starting the process to envision a plan to move Saint Anne Parish to a church composed of disciples. Process would include short and long term goals. Once the vision was fleshed out then it would drive all the ministries, and related activities.

Need to develop a plan, identifying facets of growth. Need to be careful to not to confuse welcoming with outreach, which is centered in discipleship. One major obstacle identified is the need of clear and precise messaging. Ken proposed that when placing information on the website that the subject be clear and have a link for more in depth detail. This will help with miscommunication. Discussion also included the need for each weekly message to be echoed through each and every ministry and related activity. There was a question of hiring a PR person to help facilitate the singular message. This message would be through face book, e-mail twitter, though newspapers, and possibly a message board replacing the bulletin board. A message board for outside that might highlight the good works and community outreach was discussed. This message board might include pictures to give a window into what Saint Anne's community does. With effective communication, ministries could more effectively work with one another. At the center of this communication is the heart of discipleship.

For this communication to be effective there was a discussion on how the various ministries leaders could be formed into the disciples, who would then form disciples within their ministries. This formation might be experienced through training, or through the experience of a retreat.

Might try to increase the attendance to fellowship after the 8:00 or 9:30 Masses by increasing the menu of just coffee and donuts.

Spoke about the needed to move to tithing. Father wanted ensure that tithing would only be addresses after people had a better understanding of discipleship as tithing has a deeply spiritual aspect.

Bulletins will be handed out at the beginning of Mass as the congregation will be able to look directly inside and see the various readings and music for that particular Sunday. Father spoke of setting the bulletin to have two full papers with 8 pages. This will ensure the reduction of paper usage and reduce the administrative costs. Events and articles for the bulletin will need to be in no later than Monday afternoon.

Spoke about how Saint Anne might be welcoming to those who rarely attend but come for Christmas and Easter. As this will take some preparation, we might not be able to accomplish this liturgical year. Again this has to be done with a disciple's heart.

Saint Anne has received positive feedback on Funerals. Father is hoping the families that have experienced loss this past year, might receive a poinsettia for Christmas with a note that lets them know we as God's family is thinking of them. Cards for other ministries were also discussed such as Baptism and Confirmation that this evangelization tool might prove effective.

Spoke about possibility for youth service for those who have lost spouses might benefit from, such as raking leaves.

Father Marc spoke about a computer program that would ensure all the various ministers in the liturgical ministries would not have to attend more than one Mass on the weekends. Father said he would train the leaders of the ministries himself in the use of this program.

Sal was given parameters by which he could determine who would remain on pastoral Council. The length of service would not exceed three years unless requested. The rotation of the council members has not been determined as yet.

Need to develop a discernment process for those who might be interested in joining the Pastoral Council.

Spoke of new technology that would allow people to attend meetings through the web. This might be a useful tool for the faith formation ministries.

Advent wreath will be hung from the ceiling in the middle of the church. It will be incensed in the entrance procession. Night watch will begin the first week in Advent. Night watch will go from 4:00pm Mass to a few minutes before the 8:00am Mass. Sign up for night watch will begin soon.

Next Meeting: Dec 10th at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by

Cheryl Follien