

Pastoral Council
September 20, 2016

Attendance: Father Colter, Becky Mudd, Bill Mackey, Diane, Layton, Doug Christensen, Katie Schmitz, Mark Miller, Roger Kueter, Steve Duppong, Tracey Ryan-Wiering, Sarah Burke

Opening Prayer

Confirmation Letter: It has not been submitted. The letter is being held prior to submission pending more information regarding the Diocese's current work with RE's to re evaluate Confirmation protocols. It was discussed that the current age of confirmation is 15 so even if it isn't possible to move confirmation to 8th grade as our committee envisioned it, it may be possible to begin confirmation at 13 or 14 and confirm the spring of a student's 9th grade year or fall of their 10th grade year.

Ministry to the sick and homebound: There were 35-40 attendees. It was mostly an open forum for sharing of successes and challenges. Steve and Sarah mentioned the benefit of providing a forum for the ministers to share, support and refresh each other. They are in need for other ministers either for a regular opportunity or as a substitute.

Suggested to have a link on the website for families to request communion visits on the St. Patrick website. It could also include a "Check this box if you'd like to bring communion to the sick and homebound."

More attention is needed for this ministry. Ideas included developing a brochure to better share what is required to bring communion to the sick and homebound. Many people were unaware that you didn't need to be commissioned for this role. Formal and informal training of new ministers would be helpful. Recruitment of volunteers and training through shadowing seemed to be a widely accepted way to enter the ministry. One big motivator for current ministers was how rewarding it was for them.

Father requested that for future events there is a clearly identified facilitator for the event.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS):

The goal of having CGS would be to reach 3-6 year old children for early childhood faith formation.

Questions were presented as to cost, space required and other practical concerns. Father expressed that if the program has support that cost and space requirements would be less of a concern.

Sarah will contact the faith formation committee to explore if there is interest in starting an atrium at St. Patrick's.

Totus Tuus: Program in lieu of VBS for grades K-12. Three dates have been submitted. Hopefully one of them will be granted.

Catholic Faith For Adults- 10:30-noon. 40 attended, 11 interested in joining the church. Perhaps 3 more who may attend later. 6 weeks of learning "things that are especially Catholic." Supplementary information going forward for those from different or no faith traditions when needed.

Committee Reports:

School Board: There is a desire to consolidate fundraising. In the long term the wish is to have one main fundraising event each year. Smaller events may be retained as they are valuable for the community, but the goal is to approach sponsors in a more organized and unified manner to avoid asking and re-asking for multiple, individual events. Retention and recruitment for middle school age students was discussed. It was discussed that one way to retain middle schoolers is to promote Columbus.

Faith Formation: 260 students in programs. Parent meeting was successful. The hope is to give the time and resources to Rosi to rebuild the high school programs as they have struggled in recent years.

Concerns were expressed for the number of catechists specifically for 9/10 graders. It was mentioned that there may be a benefit to revisit the reasons why there is a shortage of catechists so that it is less of a struggle going forward.