

St Patrick Parish Faith Formation Commission Minutes: April 8, 2014 meeting. March 18 meeting cancelled.

Members present: Mike Ward, Allyson Brawner, Sherry Welch, Shelly Lydon, Sheila Mellick, Mike Erickson, Lisa Snitker, and Dr. Steve Perkins. Lori Ross and Angeline Nesseim were absent.

1. Prayer

The meeting opened with a Leader Gram Prayer (page 3) (Reflection and Sharing Starters). Discussion as to trying to see Jesus in people and whether those people are easy to love. Also discussed how our faith was passed on to us.

2. Administrative Issues

a. Approval of Minutes –Approval by consensus.

b. Reports

i. Youth

1. April 2nd Reconciliation celebration for grades 2-12. Fr. Dubert is fantastic with the kids.
2. Good ideas for our programming came from the CAFFEE attended by Mike and Allyson.. ...youth ministry is a part of faith formation. The Food shelter visit in LaCrosse went well.
3. The daylong event using media in ministry went pretty good....how to use our website better.
4. First Communion May 4th at 10am, Confirmation May 7, 7PM and Baccalaureate May 18th at 8AM.
5. Allyson
 - a. Approved cutting back on contracted hours in late May into June to make up for time spent at Steubenville Conference July 11th-13th. Doc Perkins asked that Allyson connect with Scott Hahn (through Jeanne Rogensick) at the conference.
 - b. T-shirt sales for youth ministry fundraiser is a GREAT idea.

ii. School-the two junior kindergarten classes for next year are nearly full, the 3 year old program was discussed again, as well as the need for another 3rd grade class.

iii. Adult-

1. There has been great attendance at the Catholicism series. It will finish up the 1st Thursday of Easter.
2. Communal Reconciliation Palm Sunday (4/13) at 2pm
3. Evening Prayer, and stations on Sunday during Lent is going well.

iv. Financials-again, the in parish tuition fee is not easy to collect. There is help available for those who cannot pay.

3. In-service/training

a. Lots of good discussion on Chapter 2 from "Forming Intentional Disciples"...are you comfortable talking with others about God? If so, what do you discuss, reveal your images of God? Does your discussion lead others to a deeper faith life? Knowing your audience and whether they are accepting to your discussion were the main topics discussed. We also discussed that programs where catechists can actively be mentored is a weakness for us and maybe (next year) we can have catechists get together once a week for faith sharing. We also discussed how to develop groups like this in the parish....we need like minded, service level people with a purpose in mind.

4. Other Business or concerns

- a. Faith Formation Leader Evaluation-archdiocese requires a committee for evaluation Mike E. and Allyson. Committee will consist of two parents, two catechists, two from this group and two board members. Some suggestions were Jess Keenan, Lori Ross, Lisa Snitker (the other one), Shelly Lydon, Erin and Brad Byrnes and John and Shelley Elliott. Shelly Lydon will contact them.
- b. Preliminary Budget-in-parish tuition left the same as last year, instructional fees went down, fundraising went up. Some (add'l) fundraising ideas were discussed (flyer attached). Mike E. will see if we can see a sample of the items being offered for sale (for quality purposes).
- c. Textbook update-went with Loyola, as parents are engaged and it is about Finding God
- d. Preliminary Calendar-gives you a general idea of dates for next year
- e. Lenten "soup dinners" next year-seems to go well in other parishes. We have always done the Lenten breakfast and it is probably not going to continue.
- f. Scheduling for Light of the World Retreats-Cost is \$2,000, which includes they run the 1st retreat, they help run the 2nd retreat, they will consult on the 3rd retreat and they have programs for small faith sharing groups. After some discussion it was determined that it is probably worth the cost. Having it during Advent or Lent were originally discussed, but those dates fill up quickly. It looks like the 15th of November or the 22nd of March (2015) are the dates we are considering.
- g. Parish/family contract on hold til next meeting

5. Closing Prayer

Next meeting May 20, 2014

