

**Social Ministry Committee Meeting**

**January 9, 2018 7:00pm-8:15pm**

Present: Robert DiFulio (Chair), Marcus Ebenhoe (staff), Sr. Joan Hilbert (staff), Barb Spector, Lisa Cook, Enrica Fleming, Annette Hunt, Pat Scarbinsky, Louis Viera Jr.

1. Common Prayer
2. Opioid Crisis Update:
   1. Partnering with a local Narcotic Anonymous group
      1. The local Narcotics Anonymous group is looking to relocate from their current location at Greater Harvest Church due to renovations occurring there.
      2. We have shown them the space and they are interested in moving into the Multipurpose Room in the former convent.
      3. Their meetings are on Saturdays from 3:00-4:30pm
      4. In process of signing the agreement
   2. Education on the issue
      1. The Gates Police Chief, James Vanbrederode, will be part of our adult education series this spring/summer
   3. Suggestion raised that we look into training some volunteers/staff who could administer Narcan in case someone is overdosing onsite.  
      **ACTION ITEM**: Have Opioid Committee look into this option further
3. Joseph’s Place Update
   1. December was a slower month as we had to change some of our dates of operation due to the holidays. It was also frigid cold which we believe tampered some turnout
   2. Shelves are surprisingly full, but we expect a large January turnout
4. Community Dinners
   1. Date for our next dinner is February 3rd at 5:30 (after the 4:15 mass)
   2. Hope to have increased attendance by
      1. inviting all Joseph’s Place guests
      2. inviting all new parishioners and their families
      3. inviting all RCIA participants
5. Various Chair Updates
   1. Prison Ministry
      1. There has been a renewed push to persue the ideas that this committee came up with a few years back.
      2. We will be focusing on the Monroe County Jail
      3. Complete update will be shared via email from the chairperson  
         **ACTION ITEM**: Committee will go over the proposal and will be ready to edit and vote at our next meeting
   2. Joseph’s Place Anniversary
      1. March 25th will be our 3 year anniversary
      2. Looking to find ways to incorporate a celebration into a mass on the weekend of March 17th & 18th (the 25th is Psalm Sunday)
      3. Looking at potentially doing a small fundraiser then
      4. Possibly having a community dinner to celebrate on the feast of St. Joseph, March 19th
      5. A variety of options will be better fleshed out and shared in the chairperson’s email update
   3. Ecumenical Outreach
      1. Thanksgiving ecumenical service went well with very positive feedback by other clergy
      2. The Cathedral sent Christmas cards to all of the churches in our neighborhood
      3. Week of Christian Unity is January 18th-25th. Will be praying for unity that week and highlighting the work we do in conjunction with other churches
      4. Greymore Friars have a website with a great deal of information and ideas on ecumenical work
      5. Pastoral Council was charged with creating a subcommittee who will look for specific ways for us to work together with other local churches. The committee currently includes:
         1. Joan Workmaster (Chair)
         2. Kathleen Merritt (Pastoral Council)
         3. Patty Pragel (Liturgy Committee)
         4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Social Ministry Committee)  
            **ACTION ITEM**: Need a representative on this subcommittee from social Ministry. Contact Bob DiFulio if interested
   4. Retreat
      1. Pastoral Council asked for input on the best date(s) for people to make a retreat. General consensus was springtime (late February, March or April)
6. Salt & Light Updates
   1. Diocesan Public Policy Weekend:
      1. Feb. 11th & 12th

Petitions will be signed stating the following:   
***We members of the Catholic community in the Diocese of Rochester join with our United States Catholic Bishops to urge you to support the DREAM Act of 2017 (S.1615/H.R.3440) because we believe in the sacredness of the human person and in protecting the life and dignity of every human being.***

***The young people affected by The Dream Act, who were brought to the United States as children, are contributors to our economy, academic standouts in our universities, and leaders in our parishes.***

***They should not be forced to live in constant fear that they will be deported and separated from their families.***

***It is both our moral duty and in our nation's best interest to protect them and help them reach their God-given potential.***

* + 1. Dcn. Lynn Kershner is organizing the volunteers. A variety of members signed up. If interested in helping please contact Marcus Ebenhoe at 585-254-3221 or [marcus.ebenhoe@dor.org](mailto:marcus.ebenhoe@dor.org)
  1. Rice Bowl
     1. We will once again be doing the Rice Bowl program, led by Sr. Joan Hilbert
  2. Diocesan Social Ministry Retreat
     1. Will be held on April 28th at the Notre Dame Retreat house. Please let Marcus Ebenhoe (at 585-254-3221 or [marcus.ebenhoe@dor.org](mailto:marcus.ebenhoe@dor.org)) know if you are interested in attending.

1. Closing Prayer
2. Meeting adjourned 8:10pm