

Discipleship Commission Meeting March 9, 2020

Present: Fr. Andrzej, Dcn Greg Sass, Dcn John Osnes, Rhonda Gehlsen, Stacy Tate, Teresa Thompson and Joni Osnes

Absent: Brad Blauvelt, Brenda Czmowski, and LaChel McCollar

Deacon Greg led the group in prayer to open the meeting. The agenda was approved, minutes from the October, 7, 2019, were reviewed and approved.

Fr. Andrzej and Rhonda are working on the parent's statement for First Communion.

Dcn John reviewed the letter from the Diocesan Stewardship Office which suggested goals for the Lively Faith Step in the Stewardship process. The group discussed ways the parish could include those suggestions in the goals for the Discipleship Commission for the 2020-2021 year. Dcn Greg suggested Wisdom Wednesdays could focus on forms of prayer, or on the sacrament of Reconciliation.

Teresa Thompson presented suggestions for middle school and high school students that might increase those students' interest in attending social and faith formation after they were confirmed. She suggested having speakers who would talk about working in their professions and living as a Christian in those professions. She suggested talking to this year's Confirmands to find out what they want to meet their needs. (Perhaps the last sessions could involve this topic.) The young people are more in-tune with social concerns and need assistance incorporating their faith in their decision making.

Joni presented a summary page of adult faith formation. The blessings of the adult faith formation participants are the engagement of parishioners in intentional discipleship. The challenge is that the mission of the Church is to bring the Good news to all and making that mission a priority for all of us. For example, Sunday morning classes included a repeat session on the Eucharist to prioritize the Diocese's directive for the 'Year of the Eucharist'. Those participants were challenged to bring someone who has not attended this session along. There were no new attendees during this session.

Another session offered was one on Reconciliation in response to the Stewardship's committee's survey which indicated parishioners were not receiving this sacrament as recommended by the Church. More parishioners are attending this session than the previous sessions.

Stacy reported there are 6 adults in the RCIA sessions. There has been some discussion of moving these sessions to an evening to have more time. This is a consideration for the next sessions.

Rhonda presented a summary page of the Youth Formation. She reported the Wednesday evening classes are attended at a high rate (87%) and that she might have to look at offering another session for CGS 1 and 2 next fall. Her challenge is training enough catechists for the goal to have CGS available to all young children at OLBH. She received several suggestions from the group and will consider them.

Rhonda presented her ideas for middle school and high school faith formation. All those who have been confirmed will be invited to a summer camp out in August 2020. The goal would be having these students enjoying being together and making friends at church Formation activities.

She mentioned director at the Newman Center to discuss the possibility of having evenings with the college students and the youth from OLBH doing service and group activities 3 or 4 times a year.

Dcn John led the group in the Prayer of a Faithful Steward and asked the members to pray this prayer for the success of the Stewardship Fair on March 21 and 22 after each of the Masses.

Meeting closed at 7:35 pm. The next meeting will be Monday, May 18, 2020 at 6 pm.

Discipleship Commission Goals for 2020-2021

1) Establish Sustainable Core Young Adult Group by August 2020

1) meet with young adults participating in ChristLife to obtain leadership and to discern needs of this group.

2) Budget for activities and resources for this group

2) Plan and coordinate Our Lady of the Black Hills parish mission by December 2020.

1) Contact Fatima Group to schedule a date. (Fr. Andrzej has received an email with offer from them)

2) Budget for Mission

3) Enlist K of C and other groups to assist with mission activities

4) Advertise event to parish

3) Evaluate and Revise Baptismal Preparation and Follow-up if necessary by May 2021

1) Meet the couples who have been providing preparation classes and doing follow-up.

1) Compare the program utilized now and review new materials .

2) Budget for training, classes and resources for preparation classes and follow-up

4) Offer Catechesis of the Good Shepherd for PreSchool- age 12 children

1) CGS training (currently 4 classes)

1) level 1 training completed by July, 2020 (will have 5 new CGS Level one teachers)

2) level 2 training at Terra Sancta by 2021

3) level 3 training by 2024????

2) Resources

1) space is limited

2) supplies needed

3) Must be in budget

3) Input needed from Catechists teaching CGS

Faith Formation As of 03/09/2020

SUNDAY	Class Size	AVG Attendance	Days w/ 100% attendance	WEDNESDAY	Class Size	AVG Attendance	Days w/ 100% attendance
CGS I	13	72%	0	CGS I	9	83%	2
CGS I	11	66%	0	CGS I	8	91%	8
CGS II	14	71%	0	CGS II	8	85%	2
CGS III	8	52%	1	CGS III	12	85%	2
Trad 1-3	10	72%	0	Trad 1-3	9	86%	8
Trad 4-5	8	66%	1	Trad 4-5	5	92%	12
Trad 6	10	54%	0	Conf.	16	87%	3
				YDG I & II	5		
				YDB I & II	7		
				YDB III	4		
Overall Average:	74	65%			83	87%	

**No Stats on YDB

Curriculums In Use:

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd I, II, III

We now have 2 CGS level I classes taking place on both Sunday & Wednesday night.

Training for CGS level I: part 2 of level one on March 14-16, and July 11-13.

Training for CGS level II: Hopefully hosted by Terra Sancta beginning summer 2021

Traditional Faith Formation for 1st - 6th grade

Spirit and Truth

Middle School/High School

Ydisciple

First Reconciliation and Eucharist

We have 26 children who will receive their First Communion this year. This includes kids who are in RCIC.

First Reconciliation was on November 21, 2019

First Communion is scheduled to take place on May 2 @ 5pm, and May 3, at 8am

Blessed Curriculum from Dynamic Catholic for the kids, & Forgiven and Presence series from Formed for the Adults.

Deacon Greg presents to the adults, while I lead the children.

Confirmation

We have 16 kids in confirmation this year.

Confirmation is scheduled for April 25, at 5pm mass

We are still using the Chosen curriculum.

Looking Ahead

Duc in Altum - July 19-23

Steubenville St. Paul - July 24- 26

Totus Tuus - June 22-26 for Girls, and July 13-17 for boys

I am hoping to have a camping weekend for kids at OLBH who have been confirmed, currently in Ydisciple, or interested in attending Ydisciple.

I am also hoping to begin a quarterly thing with School of Mines Newman Center.

Adult Faith formation and Evangelization 2019-2020

Sunday Morning Adult Formation

Lectio Mary

Lectio Eucharist

Forgiven: the Transforming Power of Reconciliation

Average attendance:

40 adults attended at least one session

Wednesdays of Wisdom LESSONS BASED ON YEAR OF THE EUCHARIST

September What is the Eucharist? Fr. Andrzej 30 adults attended

October Encountering Jesus in the Eucharist Susan Safford

November Fatima Statue and Presentation ????

December Eucharist Prayers Fr. Mike Mulloy 30 adults attended

January Scriptural Basis of the Eucharist Dcn John Osnes 20 adults

February Eucharist Adoration Dave Allardyce 40 adults attended

March Mary, Mother of the Eucharist with Fr. Andrzej's trip to Fatima

April Holy Communion Pamela and Robert Weaver

May The Pledge of the Glory to Come Joni Osnes

CHRISTLIFE SERIES OF EVANGELIZATION

Fall Discovering Christ 30 adults began on Wednesday Evenings

Winter Discovering Christ 29 Adults

Winter Following Christ 29 adults on Sunday afternoons

Following Christ on Wednesday evenings 11 attending

LENT

Home Bible Study, "Getting More Out of Lent" 11 adults

Men have 8-10 participants weekly

Early Bird Group 6-8 meet weekly to study weekend Mass readings

Financial Peace University-Led by Robert and Pam Wentz

(We have been working with the Diocese to coordinate dates for other churches in the area)

8-10 adults attended(Sessions ended March 3)

Summitt registrations 36 OLBH members

Refuel 8 adults

PMD 18 adults

Deacon aspirancy 4 Adults