

Leadership Night Report November 2020

Due to the uptick and spread of COVID19 we have opted to meet via email this month.

Stewardship: The Stewardship Council sent out a survey by email regarding reconciliation. The response has been better than anticipated. This will aid us in going forward toward designation as a Stewardship Parish. To achieve a Lively Parish, we also had Fr. Andrzej speak about Reconciliation at Wisdom Wednesday on 11/18. We will follow up with a bulletin cover by Deacon John regarding reconciliation during Lent. Reconciliation was the area of growth needed to attain the 'Lively Faith' designation by our parish. We will also work toward educating the congregation on the precepts of the church. Our aim will be to host the Stewardship Fair in mid-May; a virtual fair has been discussed as a backup plan.

Evangelization: On November 10, 2020, the Evangelization commission met. One member joined virtually, and all other members were present. The meeting opened with prayer for those affected by the pandemic. The agenda for the meeting was a brainstorming session to discuss ways the commission could promote community experiences during the pandemic. Areas discussed were communication, including Facebook, the OLBH website, telephone calls and correspondence (Christmas cards which will be mailed to all parishioners during Advent) and live streaming events. Commission members expressed concerns about Catholics getting out of the habit of attending Mass and the importance of reaching out to those members.

Administration: Regarding building and grounds, the rectory basement project is continuing and is on track, volunteers are completing the work. We are looking into ways to create a new parish directory that are both cost effective and convenient during social distancing requirements. Lifetouch no longer serves our area for Church Directories and thus we are looking into other options. The kneelers in the Church will be replaced by a crew from Terra Sancta. A generous donation was given to the Church to cover the expense.

Worship: The Worship Commission is looking toward Advent. The Advent Penance Service will be December 11 from 6-7:30. To aid in social distancing parishioners will be encouraged to stagger their arrivals and departures.

Catholic Outreach: The Catholic Outreach Commission focused on a few areas of need including finding and distributing information regarding our Sister Parish. They also discussed the need for forming a Right Life group. They will be contacting each of the Outreach groups and visiting with them to determine what they are doing and if they need assistance.

Christmas

To accommodate both parishioners and visitors over the Christmas holiday we have decided to add an additional Mass time. Mass times will be Christmas Eve at 4 & 8 pm

and Christmas Day at 8 & 11 am. We will also ask all parishioners to register for their preferred Mass time. Once each time is full, we will ask them to register for a different time slot. We will only register people for the different time slots for the available spaces in the Church.

Discipleship Commission Meeting

Date: Monday, October 26, 2020

Time: 6 pm

Members Present: Fr. Andrzej, Deacon Greg Sass, Deacon John Osnes, Rhonda Gehlsen, Joni Osnes, Brad Blauvelt, Brenda Czmowski, Lisa Katzenstein

Members Absent: Stacy Tate

The meeting was opened with prayer led by Fr. Andrzej. Deacon Gregg welcomed Lisa as a new member of the Discipleship commission.

The minutes of the June 30, 2020 meeting were reviewed. Deacon John moved to approve the minutes.

1) Rhonda reported on the enrollment in the youth faith formation:

There are just over 150 children registered with 4-5 families utilizing Living the Liturgy, a lectionary- based resource at home.

12 First Communion children participating

19 Confirmation students

2) Rhonda reported she has:

three new Level one catechists for CGS

Rhonda completed the first half training for Level 2 in August 2020

Terra Sancta is planning CGS training for levels 2 & 3

Planning for Level 2 sessions in 2022-2023

3) Middle School and High School

Y Disciple Middle School 4 boys and 8 girls registered

Y Disciple High School 4 boys and 2 girls registered.

Challenge is planning for activities in light of safety issues because of Covid -19 but there will be Trick or Treat so others can Eat on October 31, 2020

REVISED Discipleship Commission Goals for 2020-2021

1. Establish Sustainable Core Young Adult Group by October 2020
 - a. Meet with young adults participating in ChristLife to obtain leadership and to discern needs of this group
 - b. Budget for activities and resources for this group
2. Plan and coordinate Our Lady of the Black Hills parish mission in 2021
 - a. Contact Fatima Group to schedule a date. (Fr. Andrzej has received an email with offer from them)
 - b. Budget for Mission
 - c. Enlist Knights of Columbus and other groups to assist with mission activities
 - d. Advertise event to parish
3. Evaluate and revise Baptismal Preparation and Follow-up, if necessary, by May 2021
 - a. Meet with the couples who have been providing preparation classes and doing follow-up
 - b. Compare the program utilized now and review new materials
 - c. Budget for training, classes. and resources for preparation classes and follow-up
4. Offer Catechesis of the Good Shepherd for PreSchool through Age 12 children
 - a. CGS training (currently 4 classes)
 - i. Level 1 training completed by July 2021 (will have five new CGS Level 1 teachers)
 - ii. Level 2 training at Terra Sancta by 2021
 - iii. Level 3 training by 2024?
 - b. Resources
 - i. Space is limited
 - ii. Supplies needed
 - iii. Must be in budget
 - c. Input needed from catechists teaching CGS

Discipleship Commission Meeting 10/2020

Joni reported on the adult faith formation sessions and numbers:

Sunday Am Group 24 adults participating in David Allardyce's Group

Bishop Barron's "The Sacraments"

Pamela Weaver will lead this class in "The Search" in November

3 Groups of Following Christ completed in June and September 2020

Will launch "The Search-7 week session in Advent (probably mostly virtually)

Aging Gracefully During the Pandemic completed in October

Phone calls to parishioners who are not present in OLBH community

Wisdom Wednesday s Topics include:

October Catholic Funeral Rites POSTPONED until February 2021

November Reconciliation

January 2021 Discussion on Right to Protest

Joni announced she has submitted her resignation to Father Andrzej and that two candidates were interviewed on Wednesday, October 22, 2020.

Brad reported they have one person in RCIA and are meeting virtually on Tuesday evenings.

Next meeting will be on February 8 at 6:00 pm. The agenda will focus on reviewing and making goals for 2021.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm with prayer led by Deacon John.

Evangelization Commission Meeting

Date: October 22,2020

Time: 6;30-7:40 pm

Members Present: Katelyn Rothschadl, Debra Jensen, Richard Long, Bernie Keeler, Sheila Keeler, Jean Hohm, Jessica Bergeleen, and Joni Osnes

Absent: Jane Abernathy

Meeting opened in prayer led by Joni. New members (Katelyn, Bernie and Jessica) were welcomed as they began their three year terms.

The remainder of the meeting was a discussion of the first 14 pages of "Living as Missionary Disciples, A Resource for Evangelization".

Members took pages of addresses of OLBH members to address envelopes for the Advent cards. These cards were made by Cathy Long and Sheila Keeler this summer and will be mailed the first week in December.

The next meeting for this commission is Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joni Osnes, Chair

Oct. 22, 2020

Stewardship Council Meeting

In Attendance: Andrew Boyd, Deacon John Osnes, John Kerstiens, Kodi Carlin

Absent members: Pam Freeman, Josh Weaver, Matt Gottlob, Ryan Turnquist

Old Business:

1. Stewardship Fair

(A) Deacon John suggested to hold the 2021 Stewardship Fair mid-May. Members agreed that mid-May would be a good time to hold the fair. Deacon John will speak with OLBH staff to see if the weekend of May 15/16 or May 22/23 would conflict with any other events.

(B) Spoke of back-up plan being a possible “virtual fair”. In a virtual fair, commissions record a video overview of their commission, and describe their need and how parishioners can help.

2. Achieving Lively Parish

Andrew Boyd spoke of how we will continue to work towards the goal of becoming a lively parish. We need to determine an assessment to know when we achieve this goal.

Benchmarks needed to reach to achieve “Lively Parish” level

Prayer/ Study/ Formation

How we will achieve “Lively Parish”:

1. Increase number of parishioners receiving the sacrament of reconciliation on a regular basis

(A) We will create a survey to be emailed to parishioners to determine why they may or may not receive the sacrament of reconciliation on a regular basis. Deacon John will put the survey together and receive the approval of OLBH staff. (see attachment for draft survey)

(B) Andrew will ask Father Andrzej to speak on a the topic of reconciliation during a “Wisdom Wednesday”. We suggested on talking points for Father Andrzej. (see attachment)

(C) Deacon John will write a bulletin cover on the topic of the sacrament of reconciliation to be published the first week of lent.

2. Educate the congregation on the precepts of the church

3. Goals for Stewardship Council

1. Become a “Lively Parish”

2. Become a “Stewardship Parish”

3. Provide guidance to other parishes to become stewardship parishes.

Next meeting will be Leadership Night, Nov. 12, 2020, at 6:30 p.m.

Stewardship Council Meeting 10/2020

Sacrament of Reconciliation Plan (draft)

- Online survey of reasons for receiving/not receiving the Sacrament regularly (more/less frequently than once a year)
 - Some reasons for receiving
 - Need a list...
 - Some reasons for not receiving
 - Availability of Sacrament too limited (scheduling conflicts)
 - Don't like standing in line
 - Bad past experience with confession
 - Don't need a priest for forgiveness of sins
 - Don't like thinking about my sins
 - Didn't know receiving at least once a year is Church requirement
 - Other (list)
- Groups who could receive an online survey? Email access to most parishioners; post link on website
- Wisdom Wednesday on Sacrament of Reconciliation (November); later Wisdom Wednesdays will address Baptism & Eucharist
 - Elements of the Rite
 - How often must I receive the Sacrament?
 - What is the advantage of frequent reception (e.g., monthly)?
 - Differences between Reconciliation and spiritual direction?
 - How long should a good confession take (if received regularly)?
 - What sins must I confess? Difference between venial & mortal sins
 - How detailed should I be about sins? What does "kind & number" mean for mortal sins?
 - What if I forget a sin?
 - Should I receive if I am only aware of venial sins? Why?
 - Why does the priest give me a penance?
 - What is an Act of Contrition? Must it be memorized?
- Communal Penance Service in Advent (December)
- *Forgiven* study from Formed (4 or 5 sessions beginning 2nd week of February; Ash Wednesday in 3rd week; study in small groups including Sunday morning adults)
- Communal Penance Service in Lent (after at least 3 sessions of *Forgiven*)
- Resurvey parish about frequency of reception (in-pew and online; Divine Mercy Sunday, Apr 11)