

SHORT FORM REPORT

FAITH FORMATION COMMISSION

October 20, 2016

PRESENT: Marianne Hartkemeyer, Joe D'Angelo, Carol Gabis, Claire Tenhundfeld

ABSENT: Deb Cook, John Mercado, John Meyer

FACILITATOR: Marianne Hartkemeyer **RECORDER:** Joe D'Angelo **PRAYER:** Carol Gabis **Time:**

MAINTENANCE: Discussed questions 7,8,9,10 from the article: What Is Spirituality/U.S. Catholic.

Question 7. How would you describe a way of integrating ideas of other religions into your own? Any worthwhile sharing of ideas, must involve taking the time to learn/understand the beliefs and rituals of the other religion. Non Christian religions will be more of a challenge.

Question 8. Do you personally have any interest in any of the other religions? Catholics generally have an interest in Judaism. Our parish survey last April, indicated an interest in Islam. Also, there are interesting discussions at some of the local non-denominational churches.

Question 9. Do you think most people feel free to follow their heart to explore their own spirituality? We need to realize that this exploration will be different for the young, the middle aged, and elderly.

Question 10. What steps can we take to help our parishioners increase their spirituality? Just keep offering interesting prayer/reflection services, scripture education events, and seasonal faith literature throughout the year. Hopefully this will increase as more people participate.

DECISIONS: Deadlines for 2016-2017 Faith Formation Commission Strategies

We reviewed the 2016-2017 strategies and determined that the dates/deadlines were satisfactory.

DISCUSSION:

1. Understanding 21st century Catholicism, and Catholic Beliefs – Theological Approaches

Pope Francis has introduced a new spirit of Catholicism to promote spirituality for the 21st century. Catholics in the 21st century will really need to understand their faith and Church teachings.

2. **Advent** For each week of Advent, The Faith Formation Commission will consider sending emails, using the parish web site, and printing literature to prepare parishioners for the Advent season.

3. *Go and Make Disciples* Questions – Strategies for Faith Formation, Objectives 89-97

Discussed how important the greeters are for welcoming people, how more people are visiting the new chapel-tabernacle room, and how the online Mass is always there if you need it.

4. Day or Evening of Reflection

Talked about maybe having a prayer/reflection service after Wednesday Mass during Lent.

REPORTS:

Parish Feast Day Program: Well attended - interesting presentation of the life of St. Therese.

Bible Workshops – October: Everyone came back for the second class. Good participation.

Pastoral Council Survey: We need to answer the three questions on the survey that we received.

Next Meeting: Nov. 17, 2016. Deb/facilitator, John Mercado/recorder, Marianne/prayer, Carol/time

SHORT FORM REPORT

WORSHIP COMMISSION

October 25, 2016

PRESENT: Terry Crooker, Audrey Kasak, Danny Otero, Dianne Sabelhaus, Claire Tenhundfeld

ABSENT: Marti Burke

PRAYER: Danny Otero

MAINTENANCE: Reviewed our meeting procedures – rotating roles, time allotments. Responsibilities include but not limited to recommending liturgical season ideas and liturgical ministry formation. Clarification regarding responses to issues raised by the community - responses will always reflect Church documents, directives and current liturgical theology.

DISCUSSION:

1. Advent/Christmas Season

a) Focus of Advent readings: end time, preparation, staying awake

John the Baptist – preparing for the Lord means looking at ourselves to see where Christ needs to enter.
- need to strip away non-essentials in order to allow Christ in.

Mary and Joseph made room in their lives for Jesus, but encountered no welcome at Bethlehem.

b) Parish focus for Advent: Preparing the Assembly to make room for Christ to come at Christmas.

- By acts of welcome at Church and in their lives
- Focus on who will be with us to celebrate Christmas this year and be prepared
- Inviting others to worship with us during Advent and Christmas seasons
- Identifying ways that Christ can come into our world
- Inviting people to slow down in order to let Christ in

c) Actions to put emphasis on our focus during Advent

- Make liturgies more spiritual and reflective
- Scripted invitation/message before liturgies begin to focus assembly's reflection
- Bulletin messages
- Advent handouts and e-mails
- We are primarily an adult community. Therefore our focus should be on preparing for the mature Jesus rather than Jesus as a baby.

d) Discuss focus with critical ministry areas:

- Environment
- Music
- Presider/homilist
- Hospitality ministers

2. Liturgical Ministries

- Need for additional trained ministers at all liturgies
- What kind of formation is needed for new and veteran ministers? Liturgical theology; initial orientation; practices and ongoing formation
- Began discussion of in-service for all liturgical ministers

NEXT MEETING: November 20, 10:00 a.m. Recorder: Danny Otero Time Keeper: Terry Crooker

CLOSING PRAYER: Our Father