

## Our Lady of Sorrows Parish Pastoral Council

December 3, 2014

### Notes

**Attending:** John Glancy, Fabiola Aguilera, Leo Bernotas, John Flaherty, Fr. Chip Hines, Senior Deacon Mike Iwanowicz, Mary Herx-Morrill, Kerry Payson, Claire Ramsbottom, Kate Mason, Notetaker

#### Updates on Advent activities

Mary Herx-Morrill: The **Advent Workshop** seemed to be a great success with approximately 49 attendees this year compared to 40 attendees last year. Lots of positive energy with involvement of middle schoolers in the implementation.

Kathleen Crawford and Brandt Henderson are leading two **Evening Prayer sessions** for Advent on Dec 3 and Dec 17th. Prior to this PPC meeting beginning, Fabiola checked and said there were about 8 attendees. Please talk up and attend the December 17th Evening Prayer session at the OLOS Church.

Fr. Chip talked about the overall reaction to the **new Christmas Mass Schedule**. Blessed Sacrament and St. Mary's had concerns for how to fit all the families at the new schedule. Fr. Chip noted that 15 Masses over two days was a lot to handle physically and spiritually for the three priests and acknowledged the help of Fr. Spicer at OLOS. Fr. Chip is still seeking another priest for one of the Masses. Members of PPC wondered if parishioner concerns might include when to bring their young children. Parents might wonder which Mass would be geared to young children so that the children are attentive to the birth of Jesus. Fr. Chip was confident that the priests could adapt their homilies as needed.

#### Pilot of a new Idea: Religious Education Parent Briefing.

Mary Herx-Morrill presented that there will be a pilot of a new approach to including parents in the religious education to their children. Starting in January, when parents drop their children off for religious ed, Mary is going to invite the parents to stay for a few minutes (10 min) so she can overview the lesson of the week and suggest some activities at home. Mary and Kerry will talk with Fr. Vinny for some additional ideas.

#### Parish Assembly 2015

There is a small group of parishioners invited to meet with Mary on December 8th to suggest some ideas for a parish assembly and to determine if there is a quorum of energy to make it happen. More to come on the results of this meeting.

#### Joint PPC Meeting on Jan 21 7pm-9pm St. Mary's

Mark your calendars!!

We had a brief discussion on the purpose and goal of the joint PPC meeting on January 21. Fr. Chip suggested that a key topic would be the structure of a collaborative PPC. He is interested in hearing from the different parishes before putting his ideas forward. Some questions included:

\* are there lessons learned from other collaboratives in phase 1 or 2?

- \* how do we ensure PPC attendees at the January meeting understand the plan for Evangelization. Kate Mason offered to contact the Archdiocese office to see if any materials are available that could be used to prepare attendees to the joint PPC meeting.
- \* What are the potential models for selecting members of the collaborative PPC? e.g. election, invitation, other?

### **PPC coffee hour: Sun, Dec 14**

**Fabiola** sent an online invite to PPC members to bring goodies and to help out with the December 14th Coffee Hour

### **Communications updates**

- Reactions to bulletin - Reactions are generally good; people like to see what is going on in our collaborative parishes; Dom is continuing to evolve it with feedback
- Progress on web site - Dom is continuing to work on St. Mary's and Blessed Sacraments and will then look at OLOS Parish website to build in some consistency but also keep each one's uniqueness.

**RCAB Staff Collaborate training** - Staff (Mary, Kerry and Fabiola) shared their perspective on the RCAB Staff Training held in November. They can see the opportunity to have more tools to engage parishioners and shared that feedback with the Evangelization team with the spirit of evangelization. Like the Parishioner training, the experience was more individual than for their role as staff engaging parishioners in evangelization. Fr. Chip encouraged the PPC to let the process play out.

**Update on people counter automation** - Marty is leading this effort but it will not be ready for Christmas due to technical requirements.