

## Parish Pastoral Minutes-February 27, 2007

**Those Present:** Fr. Leo, Jan Tighe, Doris Cameron, Judy Schurman, Eric Fenske, Paul Alflen, Cindie Audia, Anthony Young.

### Prayer service-Worship and Evangelization

**Men's Club-Anthony Young.** Super Bowl Party went very well and Men's Club will make a good donation to Christian Service. The Scholarship Campaign kickoff is coming soon. A notice will go into the bulletin in a few weeks for potential recipients to apply.

**Spring Ground Cleanup** will be taken care of by Men's Club and they will be scheduling that soon.

**The chapel** will be closed Holy Thursday through Easter morning. Paul Alflen will take care of scrubbing the floor during that time. Jim Pipoly will take care of painting the chapel trim and is willing to paint the chapel if necessary. He also painted by the baptismal font.

**Soup and Bread Friday** was run by Knights of Columbus. The meal was excellent but they did not get the turnout that they had hoped for. They are expecting a better turnout as it gets closer to Easter.

**Easter Egg Hunt** will be taken care of by both the Men's Club and the Knights of Columbus.

**Highland Haven Breakfast** got a good turnout from residents. Men's Club will be doing more work with the Haven, probably quarterly, but they haven't made any decisions yet.

**Knights of Columbus-Anthony Young.** The induction of new Knights and presentation of degrees took place and went very well. There were many new 1<sup>st</sup> degree Knights.

**Ushers**-Rick Rubenacker is in charge of the ushers. If there are any questions or problems just let Rick know. Jan suggested that we have ushers for the holy day Masses such as Ash Wednesday. Father will remember to ask Rick. Eric Fenske brought up trying to move people to the center of the church during smaller Masses, but Anthony said that people don't like to move, so the ushers don't usually try. Jan mentioned that she sometimes tries roping portions off, but it is also not always well received.

**Wheelchair Handicapped** area. Paul Alflen brought up having an area in the new church to make it easier for the distribution of communion. Father said that is in the plans.

**Extra Ushers** will be needed for Holy Thursday and Easter Vigil at 8 p.m.

**Worship and Evangelization-Jan Tighe.** The webmaster will come in train Jan, Leo Kowalyk, Fr. Leo and Cindie Audia on how to load things into the website for the Pastoral Council minutes and Bible Study.

**Women's Club-Doris Cameron.** The regular meeting is this Thursday. Mrs. Donna Jones will be coming into give her conversion story Saturday, March 10 after the 5 p.m. Mass. There will be a light dinner first so people can just stay after Mass. Mrs. Jones is the wife of Deacon Alex Jones who is a minister who came into the Catholic Church 8 or 10 years ago along with around 50 members of his congregation.

**Overflow area.** Jan mentioned trying to find a way so that people who have to sit into the narthex can see the Mass. There is a possibility of getting a stationery camera affixed to the pole in the middle of church to have a camera feeding the Mass into the new narthex for overflow. Father will take care of looking into having that done.

**Eucharist Distribution.** Father Leo mentioned that we cannot refuse anyone communion, but at funerals, he tries to encourage only Catholics to receive. He explained the Catholic teaching and why we don't offer the Eucharist to non-Catholics, but that we don't refuse anyone either. Jan talked about a special situation with a family at a funeral that came up and how she handled it. Father mentioned that there is a great need to clarify how the entire church is handling the questions that come up.

Also, during the Eucharist, Eucharist ministers are allowed to make the sign of the cross and say "The blessings of Jesus" but should not touch the person to be blessed as in signing the person on the head. Jan and Father both mentioned trying very hard to follow the Liturgy and the guide of the Holy Spirit when questions of protocol come up.

**Reconciliation.** Eric Fenske suggested that Father add something to the bulletin about the beauty of Reconciliation. Father will make a special note to write something in the bulletin in time for the Lenten reconciliation service. Eric also suggested that Father print an examination of conscience in the bulletin on which people will have something to reflect.

**Adoration Chapel.** Jan mentioned how the chapel has had a profound impact on heart conversions of people throughout the parish and also how new people coming into RCIA are more prepared spiritually because they have already spent time in front of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

**The Census** is ready for the next step but won't be done until after Lent. There has never been a church census, so there are probably many names of people who have moved that need to be deleted.

**Outside Lights.** Anthony mentioned that the lights are not working right. Father said that Kay already called the light pole company and they will take care of it.

**Boiler.** Father said that the boiler is fixed and hopefully the gas bills will come back down.

**Family Life.** Kathy Thomas was not able to attend but left an update. (included).

**Worship Evangelization,** Jan Tighe mentioned how valuable the newsletters are to reaching out to those who do not come to church. Worship/evangelization is very busy with the RCIA right now. Update attached.

**The Nursery Meeting** did not get a response, except one person who was not able to come to this meeting. Anthony suggested hiring someone, but Father said that it wasn't in the budget. It is a constant problem to find volunteers yet everyone appreciates the service. Family life is still trying to make that effective for everyone. Anthony suggested making it more of a Sunday School class. Father suggested that he bring it up to Kathy. Father also talked about putting a DVD player in the playroom with some simple teachings from him like the sign of the cross.

**Father Leo closed with a prayer.**