

Staff Meeting Minutes  
Holy Apostles Catholic Church  
Colorado Springs, Colorado  
April 16, 2008

Members present: Sam Gioia, Audrey Sujkowski, Pat Van Horn, Mike McGrady, Mary Superata, Deacon Mike Leverington, Deacon Chuck Matzker, Fr. Joe Damhorst, and Fr. Paul Wicker,

Absent: Mary Parsons

Maryanne Wright, recording

- I. The meeting was opened with a prayer and gospel readings for April 20, 2008. There were reflections on how we are called to do the works of Christ.
- II. Review modifications of last week's minutes: None.
- III. Preschool (School of Parental Formation) – Mary Parsons. No Update this week.
- IV. Liturgical Ministries (School of Sacramental Life Celebrated) –
  - A. Audrey is participating in the Mass to kickoff the Our Sunday Visitor Conference at the Doubletree Hotel this afternoon.
  - B. There is a Liturgy meeting, Thursday, April 17.
  - C. The Life Teen Music Group is doing very well under Jessie Joyner's leadership.
  - D. Audrey has had positive feedback on the My House DVD presentation.
  - E. On May 13 there will be Safe Environment Training in St. Andrew/Bart. Persons from the diocese will conduct the program.
- V. Formation Ministries (School of Faith Encountered) –Mary Superata.
  - A. RE is finished until fall. VBS is scheduled for June 16-20 this year.
  - B. Only some parents saw the My House DVD presentation on April 6<sup>th</sup>. Mary and her staff were interested in how parents reacted to the startling statistics about pornography and the young.
  - C. The theme for the October Intergenerational Day will incorporate the forming of intentional disciples with the "wisdom" of our parents and the Saints of the church. One of the questions to be considered is: "Who was fundamental in your faith formation?"
  - D. In the summer, the Formation Ministry will put out a catalog of upcoming events. Both Sam and Fr, Paul added that they would like to see a regional catalog published. Fr. Paul mentioned that one of the goals he has established is to make sure that the parishes in his deanery are collaborating. The churches need to collaborate and network with the classes and events they are offering.
- VI. Youth Ministries (School of Vocational Exploration)-Mike McGrady

- A. Mike discussed his Soldiers of Christ Retreat. He passed around a draft agenda. He will be glad to adjust the agenda for staff members. After the staff gives their presentations there will be small group discussions. The goal of the ministry presentations will be to leave kids with “a conscious decision to live the faith.” Staff members are welcome to participate. Bill Sydow will conduct a modified Called and Gifted Program geared to the Youth. Bill Snodgrass will speak and present training for the Youth, who will emerge from the training as Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Eucharist. Nicole Konz will conduct training for those interested in becoming Lectors. At the noon mass on April 20<sup>th</sup> the Youth will give a brief testimony regarding the retreat and their reflections. The Retreat is primarily for the Youth who will receive confirmation, but all youth are invited. Some teens are from other parishes. There will several activities to encourage trust among each other. The emphasis will also be on physical activity. Mike’s Mass for his acceptance as a candidate for the diaconate will take place April 26 at 10 am at the cathedral. The staff will then leave for the SOCT retreat. Fr. Joe will do confessions on April 26<sup>th</sup>.
  - B. Confirmation interviews are being done.
  - C. The “As for Me and My House” Program has been initiated in the parish. Mike is consolidating comments and questionnaires for Michelle Maher.
- VII. Outreach Ministries (School of Pastoral Care and Justice) – Pat Van Horn.
- A. At the Stephen Ministry Leadership Meeting, one of the points discussed is the problem of recruiting new members. Pat suggested that regional training be held at a different parish each session. The idea was embraced by all of the members. The training will be held November through May so that the 50 hours of training can be done.
  - B. Linda Visinsky has indicated that she would like to become involved in the health and wellness ministry. When Mimi Leverington is involved with missions outside the city, Linda may be able to help with events in the parish. Since there are more and more elderly persons in the parish, a commitment to meeting the needs of this age group will become more important. Mimi has a list of retired nurses who are also willing to help. Pat had requests for help by the elderly who needed a visit.
  - C. There was a suggestion for the coffee shop to hold a drawing for certain events such as Mother’s Day. Individuals would put their names into a basket and the prize would be a basket made up of goodies for that special day.
  - D. Pat reported that Kids in Need will collect hats, socks and other items to be sent with the Youth to the Indian reservation in South Dakota.

- VIII. Preschool (school of Parental Formation) – Mary Parsons.
- A. The annual preschool May crowning will take place on May 1<sup>st</sup> if the Accreditation Committee is not here
- IX. Ordained Ministries –
- A. Fr. Joe.
1. Two people want to be confirmed: one is an 84-year-old woman who has been away from the church for 50 years.
  2. The last phase of the Bible Class is taking place now. The Letters of St. Paul are being covered.
  3. The Ignatian Spirit classes are taking place. Scholarships are still available.
  4. Wednesday night is the last meeting of the Ignatian group.
  5. Fr. Joe is having shoulder surgery next Tuesday.
  6. The staff will discuss ways to celebrate Fr. Joe's time here.
  7. On Thursday night, Fr. Joe is giving his Native American theology talk.
- Deacon Mike Leverington. No update this week.
- XI. Charismatic Ministries (School of called and Renewed)-Deacon Chuck Matzker.
- A. The Acts of the Apostles Seminar is going very well. There are 40 plus people signed up. The people who will receive confirmation are attending
- B. In October the Called and Gifted Retreat has been tentatively scheduled for Nov 14-15. This date is flexible. Deacon Chuck will link to the Life in the Spirit Seminar.
- XII. Pastoral Administration (School of Stewardship) – Sam Gioia.
- a. The Apostles of Hope Ministry had a meeting yesterday. The launch date will probably be Pentecost or Corpus Christi. We are moving towards a monthly parish workday, possibly on Saturdays.
  - b. Sam met with Denise Brown regarding the Newcomer's Ministry. She will provide leadership. The ushers will be an integral part of this ministry. They will invite people downstairs.
  - c. Sam is participating in the Our Sunday Visitor Stewardship conference along with Fr. Paul
  - d. The community bulletin board is ready for people to post information about jobs, their businesses or other items of interest to the community. The staff will monitor.
  - e. There was an initial meeting for Festival organizers. The festival will probably be scaled back this year. There will be a Saturday night Murder Mystery Dinner. The Boy Scouts will be involved in setting up their camp on Saturday. The Festival will continue on Sunday morning after the 9:30 am mass. There will be kid's games, vendor tables, and some type of youth activities. There will be a dinner dance and possibly a concert outside. There will not be a mass outside this year. More details will follow.
  - f. The Mother's and Father's Day cards order has been placed.

- g. For the First quarter, the financials are about \$17,000 off from last year. The budget for next year is being prepared. The offertory will probably continue to be flat. Some type of fundraising may be an option.

1. Administrative Items – Maryanne Wright

- a. In mass baptisms were covered for the next six weeks.
- b. Bulletin Board Requests.
  - i. Mozart's *Coronation Mass* Performance on May 3<sup>rd</sup>.
  - ii. Women's Gathering, St. Francis.
- c. Facilities Usage Requests.  
Bannoura Olivewood Sales outside for April 26-27.
- d. Commentator Requests.
  - i. Olivewood next weekend.
  - ii. Boy Scout Spaghetti Dinner on May 3<sup>rd</sup>.
  - iii. Coffee and Chocolate for sale.
  - iv. Pancake Breakfast on April 20 after the 7:30 and 9:30 am masses. Guest speaker, Bill Galvan after masses and a dancer to promote the Knights of Columbus luau.
- e. Bulletin Inserts. None

XIII. Pastor's issues- Fr. Paul

- A. Fr. Paul is concerned about the number of parents who are unmarried and want their children baptized. This will be one of the issues addressed by the parochial vicar.
- B. At the Deanery meeting the finances in the parishes were discussed. Grace, Commitment and Basic Justice issues were tied together. The economy is the number one concern with parishioners. We are citizens of heaven before we are citizens of earth.
- C. The Women's Group will also address the issue of what types of dressing, when attending church, are appropriate: "see me as Jesus sees me." The Women's Group would like to move their efforts into the area of hospitality.
- D. Just Faith is meeting tonight and the Women's prison ministry was discussed. Also, pornography is a major Social Justice issue. This topic will be presented to Just Faith as an area where they can start to work.
- E. The Visioning Body will be reformed. The challenge will be to find people who have vision and are willing to serve.

XIV. Meeting closed at 11:40 am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Maryanne Wright