

Staff Meeting Minutes
Holy Apostles Catholic Church
Colorado Springs, Colorado
February 13, 2008

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

Maryanne Wright, recording

- I. The meeting was opened with a prayer and gospel readings for February 17, 2008.
 - A. Several staff members have some reflections on the past week about how they impacted others and how others have impacted their life. Mary Superata attending the rite of Election on February 9th. After the ceremony, one of the sisters who also attended, made the comment that Holy Apostles is "living up to its name." She was commenting on the large number of candidates from our parish. Fr. Paul also spoke to sister who was moved by the perception that at our parish "Everyone is welcome."
 - B. Pat, as our Outreach Ministry head, was able to help someone a while back who needed a bus pass. This individual came back this week and thanked Pat for her help, and told her how using the bus pass had brought him a series of fortunate events in his life, including finding a job. On another occasion, Pat was also able to provide comfort and understanding to someone who was in pain and was not happy with the way her life had gone.
 - C. Fr. Paul was at a meeting at the Chancery all day and this gave him the chance to reflect upon working together as a team. Teamwork is necessary to accomplish our goals.
 - D. Fr. Joe spent the previous week in Belize working with one of the missions. He met several amazing people who are doing the best they can to raise their children with good values and to live a Christian life. It is a struggle there, where poverty and drug use are but two of the challenges.
- II. Review modifications of last week's minutes: None.
- III. Youth Ministries (School of Vocational Exploration):
 - A. The Youth Chastity Rally was held at Holy Trinity. Approximately 60 people were there (including parents), and Holy Apostles had around 25-30 people attend.
 - B. Mike and Fr. Joe are going to South Dakota to see about the Youth Mission to the Indian Reservation later in the year. They are taking some furniture and other things for use there.
 - C. In two weeks, Mike will start a chastity-based series of programs for the Youth.

- IV. Ordained Ministries.
 - Fr. Joe Damhorst:
 - A. The Bible Series will move into the New Testament for the next few weeks.
 - B. Regis University is starting a course on Ignatian Spirituality. The course will start on March 18 and will run 5 weeks for two hours each week. There will be a priest commuting from Denver to teach this class. Free tuition will be provided to parish staff or volunteers in parish Ministry.
 - C. Fr. Joe will have confessions on this Saturday morning.
- V. Liturgical Ministries (School of Sacramental Life Celebrated):
 - A. The first Soup and Bread celebration with the Knights of Columbus went very well. The rosary was sung. This week, the Music Ministry will do the Soup and the rosary will be recited. Audrey would like to have scripture readings after each decade of the rosary.
 - B. Mary and Pat will provide the soup for the February 22 celebration.
 - C. Server Appreciation Day will be scheduled after Easter.
- VI. Formation Ministries (School of Faith Encountered):
 - A. Intergenerational Day Planning is continuing. The plan is to have a take-home packet that contains items relevant to the liturgy until the feast of Pentecost.
 - B. March 1st is Intergenerational Day. Mary is expecting many people to attend. Because of space constraints, she may have to limit the number of people who can attend the two sessions.
 - C. Cindy Good, who facilitates the “ENDOW” program for women, is developing a Teen ENDOW program for teenage girls.
 - D. Mary discussed a program that has originated from the US Conference of Catholic Bishops. The document, “Doctrinal Elements of a Curriculum Framework for the Development of Catechetical Materials for Young People of High School Age”, presents the Revelation of Jesus in Scripture, the Mission of Jesus Christ, the Sacraments as Privileged Encounters with Jesus Christ, Living as a Disciple of Jesus Christ in Society and Responding to the Call of Jesus Christ. Ecumenical and Interreligious topics are also presented. Discussions will continue to see if the Youth Groups can use this curriculum as part of their programs. Fr. Paul led a short discussion on how it is a challenge to get across the right balance of doctrine and Gospel applications to the faithful in the weekend liturgies. Consistency and unity of effort among the staff is vital to get the message to the parishioners. Sam also suggested that the website possibly include a “Did You Know” section that would give answers to questions or give information on matters of faith to help instruct. Discussions will continue on this topic.
 - E. At a DRE Meeting Mary said that many parishes are using the “Great Bible Adventure” series for formation. Mary is considering this course for formation classes. Fr. Paul also stated that many people have this course at home.
- VII. Outreach Ministries (School of Pastoral Care and Justice):

- A. Fr. Alfredo Garcia has invited the staff to participate in the Lenten Luncheon supplied by Our Lady of Guadalupe.
 - B. The Outreach Ministry has already distributed funds to those in need for the month.
 - C. How this parish will participate in SHARE in the future was briefly discussed. The program will assume a more ecumenical spirit in the future: with many churches in the area participating. The actual shape of the program is still being discussed. Our challenge is to invite all past and future participants to continue their efforts in this program.
 - D. Holy Apostles, along with the Knights of Columbus and some parishioners, are trying to build a handicap ramp for someone who needs one. The efforts are continuing.
 - E. Pat is attending the Lenten Biblical Justice Series that is being held on Monday nights. She recommends it highly.
- VIII. Charismatic Ministries (School of Called and Renewed):
- A. Chuck offered a reflection on the focus at the Praise Gatherings. There are four themes for focus:
 1. God's overall love for us.
 2. The call to trust God.
 3. The call to surrender to Him without fear.
 4. And to proclaim the love of God.
 5. Focus and these four themes and work on all activities with these in mind!
 - B. Chuck led a discussion on how we might participate in World Youth Day in August, which will be held in Australia this year. Several ideas were presented including: if a web broadcast is done, we could participate in this activity. Could we perhaps "mirror" events as they occur? There is a substantial time zone difference which may not allow "real time" participation, but we may be able to participate in another way. Discussion will continue.
 - C. Life in the Spirit Seminar is still enrolling candidates. Fr. Paul pointed out how we are compelled by the spirit to "leave the room to spread the Word". Christ enters into the human system to restore it to its created glory.
- IX. Pastoral Administration (School of Stewardship)
- A. Sam gave the staff an update on the Returning God's Gifts Campaign. The parish has pledged \$127,000, with a goal of \$160,000. This is ahead of last year's pledges.
 - B. Sam has met with those individuals who wish to be involved in the new Coffee Shop Ministry. The meeting was intended to try and solidify two separate groups: those who will plan and those who will be in operations of the coffee shop. Several points were brought up, and will be resolved at future meetings. There were several groups attending and one group will do a survey to see what we need to have available for our customers.
 - C. The Apostles of Hope ministry will meet this weekend. Some of the points to be discussed are a possible implementation of the Ark Almighty concept

concerning matching services to those with a need. One of the tasks will be to develop an inventory of skills. The goal is to tie the Called and Gifted Program into this ministry so that those with the talents can use those talents to help those in need. Fr. Paul suggested that the Just Faith Group possibly link into the Apostles of Hope Program also. This will truly be putting Biblical Justice into action. Sam presented a drawing showing how needs and dreams intersect with God's Plan and People's Gifts in service, which is the goal of the Apostles of Hope.

- D. A short discussion was held on the Co-Workers in the Vineyard of the Lord Podcast by Dr. Cahalan concerning "Stewards of Discipleship: Toward a Theology of Ministry". The discussion addressed the distinction between discipleship and ministry and the areas of ministry that are part of the traditional church. Dr. Cahalan has a doctorate in theology. The staff has listened to these podcasts and the hope was that Dr. Cahalan would be available to attend our Ministry Fair.
 - E. Sam has applied for a Leadership course at the Center for Creative Leadership.
 - F. The Easter mailing will be targeted to the Fallen Away Catholics and the Self Identified Catholics, identified in the Marketing campaign.
- X. Pastors Issues.
- A. Rebecca Todd, who is affiliated with the campus ministry FOCUS, would like to come to our parish to speak. She gave several available dates: Feb 23, 24; March 1, 2; March 8-9; May 17, 18 and May 24, 25. The staff agreed that the May 24, 25 weekend would probably be the best date.
 - B. The Lenten Biblical Justice Series is going very well.
 - C. On Friday, Fr. Paul will be meeting with the women's group to celebrate mass.
 - D. Fr. Paul will speak with the RCIA candidates to discuss the Pascal Mystery.
 - E. The Bishop has decided that each parish must build a rectory for the priests. Planning on this effort will continue.
- XI. Administrative Issues
- A. Bulletin board requests.
 - 1. Benet Hill "A Woman's Story" approved for posting.
 - 2. Best Catholic Pilgrimages was not approved.
- XII. Fundraising/Vestibule Use/Facilities Requests
- A. Portuguese Holy Spirit Fundraiser Dinner is on April 5th. They have requested that the Parish Hall be available to them until 11 pm. They are willing to pay the extra fee. They are bringing in a singer from California who is affiliated with the Portuguese community. More information will be given at the next meeting.
 - B. Knights of Columbus want to hold an Easter Dinner from 1-3 pm to benefit seniors, widowers, widows and single moms and others. This was approved.
- XIII. Commentator/Guest Speaker Announcement Requests.
- A. Bible Study for Married Couples

- B. Fair Trade Coffee and chocolate will be sold.
- C. The Women's Story Series on St. Frances Xavier.
- D. Benet Hill Raffle.
- E. President's Day event.
- F. Charter for the Knights of Columbus will be read before mass begins.
- XIV. Bulletin Insert Requests: Priesthood Vocations Retreat was approved.
- XV. Second Collection. The mission coop appeal will sponsor a priest from India. Fr. Paul has determined that June 21-22, August 16 -17 or August 22-23 would be the best dates for Fr. Raj to visit with his appeal. Maryanne has contacted Fr. Raj with potential visit dates.
- XVI. The meeting was closed at 11:25 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Maryanne Wright