

Staff Meeting Minutes  
Holy Apostles Catholic Church  
Colorado Springs, Colorado  
January 9, 2008

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

Absent: Mary Parsons, Fr. Paul Wicker, Deacon Mike Leverington  
Maryanne Wright, recording

- I. The meeting was opened with a prayer and gospel readings for January 13, 2008.
- II. Review modifications of last week's minutes: None.
- III. Planning.
  - A. In mass baptisms were covered through February 24<sup>th</sup>.
  - B. Calendar Items.
    1. Scout Sunday –February 3<sup>rd</sup> (Boy Scouts), March 9<sup>th</sup> (Girl Scouts). Awards will be given at the noon mass on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Rite of Sending is also scheduled for Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9:30 am mass.
    2. World Marriage Day is celebrated the weekend of February 9-10. Fr. Paul will handle this parish's participation. Mike McGrady pointed out that the diocese is having a chastity rally for the youth that weekend.
  - C. Not in My House Program: no update.
  - D. Just faith Lenten Series-Parish Mission- (Biblical Justice). Speakers have been line up and the program is ready for presentation. Start date is February 4<sup>th</sup>.
  - E. Staff Workshop (January 27<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>). The staff was asked to review the "Apostles of Hope" White Paper that was authored by Sam before the Staff Workshop.
- IV. Evangelization/Marketing.
  - A. Updating the plasma screen will become easier with the technology that will be used. There will be a series of slides. There was a discussion on what the lead time was to get items on the screen. If the changes/items are given to Sam by Monday, the item will appear on the screen the following weekend. Those that submit inputs can use as much creativity as they would like. This includes writing, graphics and layout.
  - B. Submitting inputs and changes for the website will also become easier. We will be able to change/update text on the site.
  - C. Parish Calendar. Many positive comments have been received. J Richards is taking pictures at various parish events and this will insure a large selection of pictures to choose from for next year's calendar. This year 1800 calendars were printed. The cost was

\$1.92 per calendar. There was a discussion on how the calendar could be distributed. Mailing is expensive. The calendar was ready for Christmas/New Year's and since attendance increases on these weekends at masses, the calendars were widely distributed.

- D. Bibles. Fr. Joe has received a large shipment of Spanish and English bibles.
- V. Miscellaneous Issues. No updates this week.
- VI. Bulletin board requests.  
None.
- VII. Fundraising/Vestibule Use Requests.  
Super Bowl Dinner will have someone to collect donations for the dinner. The parish is asked to donate \$1 per family. In addition volunteers are being solicited. This event has always drawn a large number of volunteers and there was a discussion on how the volunteers could be utilized. Socks, hats and gloves for men are also being collected.
- VIII. Commentator/Guest Speaker Announcement Requests: Super Bowl Dinner for those in Need funding request announced, Bone Marrow screening and blood pressure checks.
- IX. Bulletin Insert Requests:  
St. Pat's Speaker from Poland approved.
- X. Continuing Items.
  - A. Preschool door: No Update.
  - B. Library Plans.
  - C. Media Center Remodel. No update.
  - D. Managing peripheral ministries: We are starting to tie the groups that meet here into the mission of the parish. More will follow.
  - E. Just Faith Living Small Groups no updates.
  - F. Christmas Outreach: Discussed earlier.
  - G. Coffee and doughnuts: No changes
  - H. Care of Mexican Immigrants: No changes.
  - I. Additional Bulletin Boards: No update.
- XI. Roundtable.
  - A. Pat discussed the Super Bowl Party Dinner: Announcement and vestibule use was discussed.
  - B. Mary Superata: Rite of Election will be at the Cathedral on February 9 at 10:00 am. RCIA II classes will be held on Sundays. Those on Mondays have been cancelled. Mary and her staff have been working on how to manage a catch up catechesis for those age groups that don't belong in the present RE classes due to age etc. The Intergenerational Days are an excellent way to capture all ages. The Baptism classes are an important and valuable way to obtain feedback from parents on classes for those that want to come into or back to the church. Adult Catholics will be confirmed with the Youth on May 18<sup>th</sup> with Bishop Hanifan. May 25<sup>th</sup> is the date for confirmation at St. Benedicts in Falcon.

C. Deacon Chuck Matzker. The next praise gathering will be January 9<sup>th</sup>. There was a discussion on how to implement the Called and Gifted Program as a way to discern one's gifts and talents. Ideally, the seminars should be held quarterly. Various formats for the seminar were discussed. One format was to have Friday night seminars followed by all day Saturday meetings. Another format involves having meetings for two hours for five days. Another question that was discussed concerns the content of the seminar that the Siena Institute uses. Examples of what charisms are given and how they can be used in the parish setting is one feature of the program. Should the curriculum be modified? This program should be an on-going effort to determine parish gifts and talents. The Called and Gifted program will probably be held after Pentecost. Holding the seminars at this time would enable those that have been confirmed, both Youth and RCIA, to continue their involvement with applying their gifts and talents to meeting the needs of the parish by staying actively involved in the ministries. There will be more discussion on this topic. There was a short discussion on whether Holy Apostles is a needs-based vs. gifts-based parish and how the Visioning Body is willing to provide their talents to meet parish needs in light of the staff direction and mission. Holy Apostles is moving toward being a gifts-based parish.

D. Audrey :

1. Reviewed the three announcements that will be given on the weekend: Blood Pressure checks, donations for the Super Bowl Dinner and the Bone Marrow Drive.
2. She also mentioned that we are out of Epiphany packets. There was a suggestion that the history and meaning of the packets should be included on the website.
3. Background checks are being implemented for the choir. We will also start doing the LifeTeen Choir background checks.
4. The status of the Men's Choir was discussed. The choir is now composed of men and women. The main vehicle of the men's fellowship is now the men's ministry.
5. The Nazarene Bible College will be here on January 15<sup>th</sup> for a tour. Fr. Paul and Deacon Mike will be involved.

E. Mary Parsons:

1. Accreditation is now done. The report is 130 pages in length. This has been a very long and involved process.
2. The school director at St. Pat's is very ill and Mary has offered the services of three of her people to help with the directorship. Fr. Joe has said that he will visit if needed.

F. Fr. Joe:

1. The Bible Class is going well. The Bible Class at Falcon may have to be held on a day other than Tuesdays because of Parish Council Meetings.
2. Fifteen acres have been acquired and now St. Benedict's can start to plan on a permanent home.
3. The Retreat in Daily Living will meet tonight in the Upper Conference Room. Lenten retreats will resume one week before Ash Wednesday.
4. The Youth will be involved in an outreach program in Avondale. The Youth will teach a Bible School for migrants. Pat asked if food and clothing will be needed. The answer was yes.

G. Mike McGrady:

1. Youth Chastity Program has signed up 200 Youth from the diocese.
2. Fr. Joe will help with confessions. Fr. Jim Williams will participate.

H. Sam: Returning God's Gifts Campaign will kick off January 27<sup>th</sup> with a video. On January 27<sup>th</sup> there is a Second Collection for the Church in Latin America.

XII. The meeting was closed at 1050.

Respectfully submitted,  
Maryanne Wright