

Staff Meeting Minutes  
Holy Apostles Catholic Church  
Colorado Springs, Colorado  
January 23, 2008

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

Absent: Deacon Chuck Matzker

Maryanne Wright, recording

- I. The meeting was opened with a prayer and gospel readings for January 27, 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. Returning God's Gifts video will be shown on January 26, 27. Sam showed the staff a preview of the video. The staff thought that it was very good. The use of the youth in the video was effective. Fr/ Paul led a discussion on stewardship. The Holy Apostles goal, which has been assigned by the diocese, is \$160,000. Pledging to the appeal is an indicator of one's support of the covenant. The question is: How do we get the message out? Sam recommended that we be consistent with our message of giving time, talent and treasure. Mike Leverington pointed out that God is never outdone in generosity. Fr. Joe stated that it may be effective to point out how the church has been helpful in the past within the community: providing food and aid and other efforts to help those in the community. The diocesan campaign should be promoted as a way we can support the causes that we as a parish cannot accomplish, but that the diocese can support. The parish will be invited to support those efforts. Pledge cards will be placed in the pews in addition to those that have been mailed to families and individuals.
  - C. Calendar Items.
    1. Scout Sunday –February 3<sup>rd</sup> (Boy Scouts) and 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. One of the parishioners suggested that anniversaries be recognized and that those anniversaries be celebrated by having a cake in the parish hall. Parishioners would be invited to celebrate with those

couples. We would need an individual to head this effort. This will be discussed at a further date. Audrey asked if the diocese had some type of program in place. In the past, at Holy Apostles, the oldest and youngest were recognized. Perhaps certain year milestones might be recognized with a dinner. The choices will be discussed further. Other groups to be recognized include a server appreciation celebration and recognition for the youth of our parish. Mike McGrady suggested that these recognitions occur during the Easter season. They will probably be planned for the Life Teen mass.

3. Knights of Columbus Charter presentation will be at mass on February 17<sup>th</sup>.
- D. Not in My House Program. Fr. Paul has sent a letter to the diocese requesting DVDs and manuals for the staff to consider. Divine Mercy Sunday may work for the kickoff of this program. Various other programs could be tied into this effort such as the Theology of the Body and the Youth Chastity programs. The Divine Mercy Chapel will be dedicated on this day.
- E. Stewardship Follow-up.
1. Focus Groups organizational meetings were held on January 19<sup>th</sup>. Efforts were made to explain what the Focus Groups are and what is expected from them. It was suggested that some type of flow chart be made to illustrate group responsibilities. Sam will be putting an informational article on the website.
  2. Meetings have been scheduled for the new ministries: Coffee Shop, Welcoming Ministry and the Apostles of Hope coordinator. They will be held on consecutive Sundays: February 10, 17 and 24. There was a discussion on how to get newcomers involved in the different ministries.
- F. Just faith Lenten Series-Parish Mission- (Biblical Justice). Speakers have been line up and the program is ready for presentation. Sixty people have signed up for the program so far. Sound and nursery have been arranged.
- G. 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.
- V. Miscellaneous Issues. No updates this week.
- VI. Bulletin board requests.  
IHN (Hearts for the Homeless) Fundraiser: ok; Small Catholic Communities flyer: ok.
- VII. Fundraising/Vestibule Use Requests.

- VIII. Commentator/Guest Speaker Announcement Requests. Second Collection for the church in Latin America.
- IX. Bulletin Insert Requests:
  - A. Gazette article on Faux Needs.
  - B. Chastity Rally for teens.
- X. Second Collection.
  - A. Church in Latin America (This weekend)
  - B. RGG 2008 (February 3<sup>rd</sup>).
  - C. Mission Coop appeal: will be a priest from India.
- XI. Preschool door: No Update.
  - A. Library Plans.
  - B. Media Center Remodel. No update.
  - C. Managing peripheral ministries: We are starting to tie the groups that meet here into the mission of the parish. More will follow.
  - D. Just Faith Living Small Groups no updates.
  - E. Christmas Outreach: Discussed earlier.
  - F. Coffee and doughnuts: No changes
  - G. Care of Mexican Immigrants: No changes.
  - H. Additional Bulletin Boards: No update.
- XII. Roundtable.
  - A. Audrey: The Knights of Columbus would like to sponsor a Server Appreciation event. The event will be held sometime after Easter.
  - B. Mary Superata: Rite of Election will be at the Cathedral on February 9-10. Lenten Intergenerational Day will be on March 1<sup>st</sup>. Two sessions will be held.
  - C. Mary Parsons:
    - 1. Mary has submitted the preschool registration form for the website. She scanned the form. Since this is a very large file, it was suggested that the form be place in PDF format. Since the website is receiving more and more "hits", placing the form on the website makes sense.
    - 2. Mary will discuss her future plans at the staff workshop at Christhaven.
  - D. Fr. Joe:
    - 1. VBS in Kyle, SD will be held on Jun 23-27.
    - 2. There is a possibility that Fr. Joe and Mike McGrady will take an advance trip there in February. They would stay at the Jesuit residence while there.
    - 3. Fr. Joe will take a mission trip to Belize February 4-8.
    - 4. Fr. Joe and Mike McGrady took a day trip to Avondale. There was a discussion about how the Youth may begin several projects to help the poor people in that area. There are many migrant workers in that area.
  - E. Pat:

Super Bowl Party for the homeless is progressing. Paul Wacker is doing a good part of the coordinating for food, donations and help.

F. Fr. Paul:

1. Met with a group of women who want to find a way to minister to the women of the parish. They were then invited to attend the Focus Group Meeting after meeting with Fr. They want to serve the needs of the community. They discussed meeting monthly, perhaps at breakfast meetings. Fr. Paul would like to see this group talk to other women's groups and perhaps get them involved.
2. There was a discussion on the lengths of the weekend masses and the use of the nursery by the children. Each child is different and the judgment of whether to use the facilities rests with the parents.
3. Fr. Paul passes out the Fallen Away Catholics handout. His brother, who is a deacon, used the handout at his church and had a large number of people respond. Most of the people within this group are struggling with many personal problems.

G. Sam: Marketing firm has used the Holy Apostles materials to illustrate to other religious entities what they can do to promote their church and activities.

XIII. The meeting was closed at 11:15 am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Maryanne Wright