

Staff Meeting Minutes
Holy Apostles Catholic Church
Colorado Springs, Colorado
March 12, 2008

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

Maryanne Wright, recording

- I. The meeting was opened with a prayer and gospel readings for March 16, 2008.
- II. Review modifications of last week's minutes: None.
- III. Guest Presentation: Michelle Maher
 - A. As for Me and My House Pilot Program was outlined. This is a pilot Program based upon a program developed by the Archdiocese of Kansas City. There are four parishes in our diocese that have been selected as a pilot parish program to implement the anti-pornography program. The four parishes are Ave Maria, Divine Redeemer, Holy Apostles and St. Peter's.
 - B. An orientation for parish coordinators was held at the dioceses at the beginning of the month. Since several of the coordinators at the parish level could not come to the orientation, a CD is available. Michelle will also meet with the coordinators at their convenience if they request it. The coordinators will prepare, facilitate and develop the program for their parish. The CD includes the manual that has been developed by the diocese as an outline for the program at the parish level. The CD has possible bulletin announcements to be included in the bulletin announcing the DVD presentation and the elements of the Awareness Program.
 - C. There are three counselors who have been highlighted by the diocese as those who deal with this particular type of addiction. Resource information will be placed on the website along with elements of the program that are yet to be determined. There are several group resources that are also available to help those that desire help. The James 5 Group, for men, the James 9 group for women, and the Endow Program for women. A Theology of the Body Workshop has been developed by Christian and Christine Meert and this resource is also available to help educate and foster a healthy sexuality. The tool chest to help address the problem of pornography from the diocese includes: the DVD, the My House Manual and the above-mentioned program materials.
 - D. Michelle showed the DVD recording of the proposed video to be shown to these parishes. Michelle asked for comments and an honest critique of the DVD. Several startling facts were presented

after the DVD was shown. The pornographic industry is a multibillion dollar industry on the internet. Children are being exposed to this type of material as young as 8 years old. The DVD was a frank presentation by a young couple. The husband had admitted to being addicted to pornography. How the addiction had the possibility to destroy the family was briefly addressed. The steps that this couple took to try and get help for the husband were also covered. Several concerns about the DVD are addressed below in section E.

- E. Concerns. The Diocese had suggested that the DVD be shown to the parishes on Divine Mercy Sunday. Our Divine Mercy Chapel will be dedicated at this time. Even though this will be a perfect time to highlight the Mercy of Christ, there was some concern about the lack of time to prepare for the showing of the DVD. It is strongly suggested that the children be excused during the showing of the video. A liturgy will have to be set-up for these children. Teens are encouraged to stay for the presentation. The suggestion that several smaller groups view the DVD before the parish does will encourage suggestions and ideas to manage any fall-out from the video. The men's group and the newly formed women's groups should preview the video. The Men's group will see it on March 15th at the Men's Breakfast. One of the concerns was that there may be some type of fallout from the presentation. It is a very emotional story, and the availability of persons to talk to may have to be addressed. Michelle will see if the counselors will be available to be present after all masses after the video is shown. Another concern was about the content of the DVD. The couple in the video presented the problem from the viewpoint of the husband's addiction and how he had hurt his wife. There are many other variations of the problem involving all members of a family. Even though the Program manual addressed bulletin announcements, there was a concern about how to publicize the program. It was suggested that a packet, in a plain envelope, with program information be placed in the bulletins for all to take home. Another concern was that the biological addictive side of pornography be addressed in some way.
- F. It was also suggested to Mary Superata that elements of the program be incorporated into her Intergenerational Programs.
- G. Fr. Paul suggested that the foundation for program presentation be started on Easter Sunday.
- IV. Fr. Paul asked that the Charismatic Ministries be involved by emphasizing the healing aspect of their ministry. The possibility of having a healing mass will be addressed.
- V. As a result of the concerns over the lack of time to prepare in a very minimal way for any type of fallout from the viewing of the video, the

video will be shown in this parish on April 6th. Those baptisms that are scheduled on this day will be rescheduled.

A.

VI. Pastoral Administration (School of Stewardship) – Sam Gioia.

1. Administrative Items – Maryanne Wright

- a. There are no baptisms scheduled during mass throughout the Lenten season. We have two baptisms scheduled during mass. Baptisms on April 6th will be rescheduled.
- b. Bulletin Board Requests.
 - i. Women's Story Presentation will be posted.
 - ii. Good Samaritan 5K Run/Walk will be posted.Facilities Usage Requests.
 - iii. Men's Breakfast will pass around handouts.
 - iv. St Joseph's Day table tickets approved.
- c. Commentator Requests.
 - i. Social Justice Presentation announced.
 - ii. St. Joseph Day Table tickets approved.
 - iii. Men's breakfast on March 15th announced.
 - iv. Girl Scout Sunday is March 9th.
 - v. Youth will speak and show the Youth Ministry shirts.
- d. Bulletin Inserts.
 - i. Coffee Shop handout
 - ii. LifeTeen and Edge Procession of the Cross on March 21st
 - iii. Return to the Heart of Prayer Mission at Divine Redeemer
 - iv. Acts of the Apostles Holy Spirit Seminar
- e. The Bannoura Family has requested a date in April to sell olivewood.

VII. Pastor's issues- Fr. Paul.

- A. The pastor will set the tone for the presentation of the video. The mercy of Christ will be emphasized.
- B. Fr. Paul, in collaboration with the diocese, and their pastoral goals, suggested that Evangelization, Faith Formation, Stewardship, Social Justice and Leadership departments at the Diocese-level be involved in the implementation of this program.
- C. The Diocesan Priest's initiatives should include:
 1. Systematic formation/Education for priests.
 2. Develop structures, programs to reach out to inactive Catholics.
 3. Develop accountability structures and tools (to Bishop Sheridan).
 4. Develop a Diocesan media and technology program committee to use our systems to communicate.

5. Empower the laity within parishes to corporate influence and evangelize in their communities and workplaces. Encourage folks to spread the good news of freedom from pornography.
6. Our Parish schools will collaborate with this effort by:
 - a. Liturgy (Mercy Sunday, dedication of the chapel).
 - b. Faith Encountered (information and referral).
 - c. Vocational Exploration (youth): education, information and referral.
 - d. School of Pastoral care and Justice (Just Faith and proactive systems vs. porn).
 - e. School of Parental Formation (Preschool): parental information and referrals. Safety and parental tools are emphasized.
 - f. Ordained Ministries: (counseling, encouragement, referral and the assurance of God's Mercy).

VIII. Meeting closed at 1150.

Respectfully submitted,
Maryanne Wright