

Staff Meeting Minutes  
Holy Apostles Catholic Church  
Colorado Springs, Colorado  
March 19, 2008

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

Absent: Deacon Chuck Matzker

Maryanne Wright, recording

- I. The meeting was opened with a prayer and gospel readings for March 23, 2008. The Easter message was discussed: out of darkness there is Light. If there is confidence in Christ, then there will be confidence in all we do to live in this modern world. Hope is emanating from Easter and is continuing through Divine Mercy Sunday.
- II. Review modifications of last week's minutes: None.
- III. Preschool (School of Parental Formation) – Mary Parsons.
  - A. Safe Environment Training has been completed.
  - B. A former parishioner has indicated interest in her position. She is well-qualified for the job. She has a Master's degree in Early Childhood Education. The Job position has been posted with the diocese and in our bulletin. It will also be posted with other parishes.
- IV. Liturgical Ministries (School of Sacramental Life Celebrated) –
  - A. Audrey. Audrey is having a Liturgy Meeting on Monday to go over all of the Holy Week and Easter Liturgies. At Tenebrae on Wednesday, the attendees have been asked to bring noisemakers. The point of Tenebrae is the holy Darkness and how this is a time of hope. This is the last time the Paschal Candle is lit until Easter. There is a longing for hope and light during this ceremony. St. John of the Cross' "Dark Night of the Soul" was briefly discussed and related to the darkness before Easter.
  - B. On Good Friday, the collection will be before the Veneration of the Cross.
- V. Formation Ministries (School of Faith Encountered) –Mary Superata.
  - A. At this time, 55 people are signed up for the Seder Meal.
  - B. Cindy, Liz Sydow and Mike McGrady are working on the Vacation Bible School program including training the Youth for the Mission trip in June.
  - C. Mary briefly discussed how the RE classes may be realigned. Mary and her staff are considering all options and the pros and cons of possibly changing the class times/dates. Discussions are continuing.

- D. There was a discussion about combiningg the Youth with RE classes for a Family Intergenerational Program. Plans are still being discussed.
- VI. Youth Ministries (School of Vocational Exploration)-Mike McGrady.
- A. Mike and his Youth groups are having a Stations of the Cross Procession that will carry the cross around the neighborhood and stop at certain points to say each Station of the Cross. The stopping points will include village Seven Presbyterian Church and the Korean Methodist Church. The Procession will start at 5 pm on Good Friday. The procession will end at Holy Apostles and the Friday night Veneration of the Cross will take place at 7 pm.
  - B. Mike's programs are taking off and he has received several positive comments from the parents of the children in his programs.
  - C. The living Stations of the Cross will be presented by the youth on March 14<sup>th</sup>.
  - D. For the Good Friday Liturgy, Mike's youth groups will conduct a Stations of the Cross Procession around the neighborhood about 5 pm on March 21<sup>st</sup>. The cross that will be used for Veneration will be carried around the area of the church while the Stations of the Cross are recited. The Good Friday Services will then start at 7 pm.
  - E. The My House program video was shown to the Men's Group. Most of the feedback was positive. Some questioned why an anti-pornography program will be presented in the church. Fr. Paul talked with the group and explained the basis of the Bishop's Program. The video will be shown to the parish on April 5-6 at all masses. A sealed envelope will be placed in each bulletin on April 5-6, containing explanations of this program, a list of counselors, and prayer cards. An insert, which had some startling statistics on the spread of pornography, was placed in the bulletin last week. There was a discussion on the dismissal of children during the showing of the video. Nursery facilities will be available for children under 7. Some type of children's liturgy will be available for the children between the ages of 7 and 12. These children will be dismissed for the showing of the video. Peggy had several ideas for the liturgy. After the video is shown on April 5-6, there was concern about how the content will affect the people of the parish. The possibility of having Stephen's ministers available was discussed. This will be discussed at next staff meeting. Info packets will probably be placed in the restrooms also. The RE families are meeting on April 6<sup>th</sup> and the possibility of showing the video was discussed.
  - F. A couple, who are part of the Marriage Encounter Program, has expressed an interest in having a Father/Daughter Dance in the future. More on this at a later date.

- VII. Outreach Ministries (School of Pastoral Care and Justice) – Pat Van Horn.
  - A. Outreach activities are continuing. Pat’s ministries are continuing to take care of the Poor and those in need of spiritual support as well as physical support.
  - B. Discussions as to how SHARE will be conducted within our parish and with other churches in the area are continuing. Fr. Paul has developed a timeline of activities to include other churches.
- VIII. Ordained Ministries –
  - A. Fr. Joe.
    - 1. Bible classes are continuing. Fr. Joe will hold a class on Native American Theology.
    - 2. Next Wednesday, Fr. Joe is having his cataract operation.
  - B. Deacon Mike Leverington.
    - 1. The Kenyan Mission, which is scheduled for October, will have an informational meeting on April 6<sup>th</sup> after the 9:30 am mass. There is political unrest in this country and this will be discussed. The mission will be a medical mission.
- IX. Pastoral Administration (School of Stewardship) – Sam Gioia.
  - A. The Apostles of Hope Ministry is continuing to come together. At the beginning of the month the needs presented to the parish will be listed. There will probably be a pulpit announcement. There will be an “Urgent” needs list. It was emphasized that helping is the main focus, not evangelization. Prayers will not be forced on anyone! Some of the projects were outlined: helping someone who is depressed clean the house and building a ramp for the disabled.
  - B. The Newcomer Ministry is still organizing: leadership continues to be a problem here.
  - C. The Coffee Shop ministry is continuing to make headway. Free coffee will be offered on Easter. The grinder has been ordered. The official opening is April 1<sup>st</sup>. Sleeves have been ordered with the logo on them. The stamp has been ordered, and should be available soon. The coffee will be ordered from a Fair Trade company called Firedance.
  - D. Cards will be available for Mother’s and Father’s Day. They will be Spiritual Bouquets.
  - E. The Father /Son Retreat video will be available for Father’s Day. Sam is researching permission forms so that the video can be placed on the web.
  - F. The Good Works Group is continuing to help those that need it. Queen Palmer Elementary School has been adopted as a project to help clean and spruce up the grounds and the school.
    - 1. Administrative Items – Maryanne Wright

- a. We have two baptisms scheduled during mass. The first baptism is on April 6, 2008 and the second on April 13 at the 12 pm mass.
  - b. Bulletin Board Requests.
    - i. God's Plan for Spousal Marriage and Love by Fr. Habiger.
    - ii. Child Abuse Prevention Fair posters for April 5<sup>th</sup>.
  - c. Facilities Usage Requests. None.
  - d. Commentator Requests.
    - i. Ministries descriptions in the bulletin.
    - ii. Free coffee in the coffee shop this weekend.
    - iii. Knight's Easter buffet.
    - iv. St. Joseph Day Dinner Thank You.
    - v. Return the Lenten Marian boxes.
  - e. Bulletin Inserts. None.
  - f. The Bannoura Family has requested a date in April to sell olivewood. April 26-27 was selected.
- X. Pastor's issues- Fr. Paul.
- A. The bishop is holding a mass celebrating marriage for those couples that have reached certain milestones: 25<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary for example.
  - B. There was a discussion on the carrying of concealed weapons in church for protection. Sam does not think this is good idea.
  - C. The dedication of the Divine Mercy Chapel will be at all masses during the homily on Divine Mercy Sunday. The Divine Mercy Group will sing at the 7:30 mass.
- XI. Meeting closed at 1125.

Respectfully submitted,  
Maryanne Wright