

# St. John Neumann Pastoral Council

October 21, 2015 @ 7:00pm

## **AGENDA**

1. Opening Prayer
  
2. Guest Speaker – Amy Krysiak  
    St. Vincent De Paul annual Christmas program
  
3. Updates & Continuing Business
  - Ministry purpose statements
  - Marian Chapel Campaign (Todd)
  
4. Commission & Council Reports
  - Comisión Hispana Report (Adela)
  - Liturgical Council (Pat)
  - Stewardship Committee Report (Tom)
  - Specific/Immediate Ministry Issues and Needs (All)
  
5. Reactions from Gus Lloyd event
  
6. Other Items of Concern or Interest to the Council
  
7. Closing Prayer

## **Council Members**

PRESENT: Fr. Sunny, Cathy Karlsen (Chair), Deacon Mike Hayward, Pat Hodges (Liturgical Council Rep), Tom Studer (Stewardship Council Rep), Todd Pull (Financial Council Rep), Ann Basile, Jeff Newman, Matt Champagne (Secretary)

ABSENT: Luis Cardenas, Adela Duran, Buihe Okenu

## PROCEEDINGS

### 1. OPENING PRAYER

We recited the Stewardship Prayer.

### 2. GUEST SPEAKER

Amy Krysiak gave a presentation on the St. Vincent De Paul annual Christmas program. As in past years, St. Vincent De Paul asks the Pastoral Council to spread the word to ministries to adopt a family for the Angel Tree Program, with the larger ministries (e.g., Eucharistic Ministers) perhaps adopting larger families and smaller ministries doing the same for elderly couples. The following email summarizes much of what Amy said about Food Sunday and the Angel Tree Program. Cathy will forward this email template to the ministry leaders:

The Food Sunday and Angel Tree Programs sponsored by the St. Vincent de Paul Society are well under way. The parish support of these programs allows the St. John Neumann community through St. Vincent de Paul to provide Thanksgiving dinner and the joy of the Christmas season to 100 local families. Last year the parish helped 345 people enjoy the spirit of the Season and the Spirit of Christ.

The Angel Tree Program is where needy families are provided Christmas presents and a gift card for food. Donors provide the presents and St. Vincent de Paul provides the gift card. The donors contact the families to determine any specific needs. The deliveries are made at the discretion of the donating family and/or ministry.

Last year many of our parish ministries selected a family and pooled their resources to provide Christmas for the family. In all 28 families were helped by parish ministries.....one third of the program! Some of the larger ministries handled the program on their own. Smaller ministries were able to combine with other smaller ministries to adopt a family.

If your ministry is willing to participate again this year in this heartwarming program please let Kathy Laskodi ([laskodik@bellsouth.net](mailto:laskodik@bellsouth.net)) know as soon as possible, but no later than November 15. Kathy will work with you to select a family for Christmas.

The Angel Tree will be available on Food Sunday after the 9:00am and 11:00am Masses to and after all Masses the weekends of **November 28<sup>th</sup>- November 29<sup>th</sup> and December 5<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup>**. By joining the Angel Tree Program early your ministry will get first selection of the recipient families.

Please consider sponsoring a family this Christmas and bring the Light of Christ to those less fortunate in the Lilburn area. In their eyes you will find the face of Christ....especially in the little eyes.

Thank you for your prayers and continued support of these charitable works.

Each participating family will be visited by their case workers and background checks performed. St VdP is aware there are still people struggling within our own parish and that case workers deliver directly to those parishioners to keep their identity hidden.

Can contact Amy if you hear of anyone that needs help: [Amy.Krysiek@att.net](mailto:Amy.Krysiek@att.net)

One change from 2014 was to hold the Angel Tree during Food Sunday before Thanksgiving rather than the Sunday after Thanksgiving in order that more parishioners are present.

Jeff asked if only families with children are selected. Amy replied that most do for the Angel Tree but that there are also a number of shut-ins and isolated older folks who need human contact. Contact Amy if anyone is in need of help. The Pastoral Council will again sponsor a family this year.

### **3. UPDATES & CONTINUING BUSINESS**

- Ministry purpose statements

After a short discussion it was learned that the ministry records still need some updating. This will be worked on this month.

- Marian Chapel Campaign (as of September 30)

Todd provided the following figures:

- Total pledged is \$860,000
- Pledges Collected: \$420,000
- Total Income: \$1.1 Million (includes pavers and other campaigns)

The Council discussed various ideas to close the gap including the posting of a pledge “thermometer” to visually illustrate progress and the initiation of e-giving for the campaign. All agreed that pledges will increase once the chapel is completed.

### **4. COMMISSION & COUNCIL REPORTS**

- Comisión Hispana Report

Adela could not attend but her report (see p. 6) was read aloud and passed to council members for review.

- Liturgical Council

Pat shared the success stories of the Share Fair with sign-ups reported by multiple ministries. Her full report is on p. 6.

- Stewardship Committee Report

Tom reported on the success of the time & talent Fair and the Gus Lloyd event, which was the focus of the Stewardship Committee this past month. The “one-and-done” tasks were well received.

- Specific/Immediate Ministry Issues and Needs (All)

ESL still needs more support – there are sufficient teachers but more assistants are needed. Also in need of a parishioner who speaks Oromo or Amharic (to assist those from Ethiopia).

## **5. REACTIONS FROM THE GUS LLOYD EVENT**

The Council shared their perceptions and observations of the successful Reflection Day event. Kudos were given to Karla Poshedly and the Nursery team for their charitable efforts. Ann had the most memorable statement (courtesy of Deacon Tolcher) in regards to the less-than-expected attendance at Reflection Day: the Lord said FEED my sheep, not COUNT my sheep!

## **6. OTHER ITEMS OF CONCERN OR INTEREST TO THE COUNCIL**

- A very happy 50<sup>th</sup> birthday to Fr. Sunny!
- Fr. Sunny reported on the most recent Deanery Meeting, newly led by Fr. Jude Michael Krill. St. Monica’s recently launched “Ablaze Radio” (98.1 FM) that airs local and national Catholic programming designed to evangelize, catechize and empower listeners. St John Neumann also shared their impressive progress at the Deanery meeting.
- On December 5, 2015 our church will host an Advent day of reflection entitled: *“Waiting for the Lord with Wisdom from St. Teresa of Avila, St. John of the Cross and St. Thérèse of Lisieux”*. The featured speaker is Dr. Keith Egan who is the Aquinas Chair in Catholic Theology Emeritus at Saint Mary's College and adjunct full professor of theology at the University of Notre Dame.

This retreat will begin at 9:45am and end with 5:00pm Mass. All are welcome but are asked to RSVP to: [malocds@gmail.com](mailto:malocds@gmail.com). A \$10 donation can be made at the door.

## **7. CLOSING PRAYER**

Deacon Mike led us in prayer.

## **NEXT MEETING**

Due to a conflict with First Sacrament of Reconciliation, the next meeting will be held Wednesday December 9 at 7pm.

# Ministry Reports – October 2015

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## Discipleship: Buihe

### **Advent by Candlelight** (Mary Lou Schwaner)

Advent by Candlelight (Evening of Reflection for Women) is now taking table reservations for the Nov. 22 gathering.

### **Dynamic Catholic Book Club** (Mary Lou Schwaner)

Has resumed and is reading the final section of the US Catholic Catechism for Adults - Part III - Morality/10 Commandments, which will be completed in mid-December.

### **Women's Catholic Bible Study** (Judy Butterick and JoAnn Stoddard)

WCBS Facilitator Retreat will be this Friday evening & Saturday. Deacon Greg will be our retreat speaker this year. The ladies will end their retreat by attending 5pm Mass at SJN followed by dinner at TBM. WCBS membership is 108. Names given to us from the Fair were followed up but have not attended as of this email. Just a reminder to adjust temperature in downstairs mtg. rooms with cooler weather coming up for ladies on Wednesday mornings. Thanks once again to SJN for the use of their facilities in helping women grow in their Catholic Faith by increasing their knowledge and understanding of Sacred Scripture.

## Support: Ann

### **Donna & Maureen.**

We got four new volunteers from Time & Talent Sunday. We lost one of those four when they realized they probably would not have time to garden with us. We gained two by word of mouth.

### **Grounds** (Jane Trentin).

I would like our ministry kept abreast of what the Scouts have planned. Not clear how to do this, whether through Paul Hayes or the Scoutmaster and which Scoutmaster, Rust or Lott.

### **Photography** (Jim Ollick).

We gained 2 members at the fair so it was a good event for me. I also covered the Fall Festival and posted the photos on the web site.

## Outreach: Jeff

**Special Needs** - The special needs ministry Halloween Party is this Saturday 24th from 6 to 9pm. Volunteers can contact Scott or Rebecca. Rebecca and Janie have put together a series of speakers to answer questions for parents of special needs children and adults. The first one was a great success with over 50 people in attendance. The next is Thursday, November 12th at 7pm. Folks need to RSVP. From the flyer: "Sally Atwell, Project Director with the Benefits Navigator Program is our speaker. She will present information on how earned income will affect Social Security benefits, as well as other State and Federal benefits your loved one with special needs may receive."

**Care Team** - Added 3 new members from the Share Fair.

**Communion to the Sick** - Added 4 members via the Share Fair In spite of more requests for communion at home, they know seem to have enough volunteers to meet the need.

**ESL** - Fall semester classes will end on Nov. 5. Winter/Spring semester will begin on January 13. All is going well but they could use a couple of more people as assistants.

**Family Promise** - SJN Family Promise ministry received the 2016 dates for hosting families. They are weeks of June 12 and August 21. Currently the core team is working to recruit more ministry members and core team members.

**Bereavement** - There will be a special All Souls Day Mass at 7PM on Nov. 2nd to remember all of those who have died over the past year. If a family member died and was not a member of SJN they may also be included.

## **Fellowship: Cathy**

**Fall Festival** (Skip Holland). It's over.

**Table of Fellowship** (Judith Depasupil) The Table of Fellowship Pot Luck Supper will be on Saturday, November 14, 2015, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm, after the 5:00 pm Saturday Vigil Mass, in Reynolds Hall. The announcement and what to bring will be in the Sunday Bulletin on October 24. Please encourage the Parish Council to attend.

## **Comisión Hispana Report: Luis & Adela**

Dear brothers and sisters;

You and I are given a powerful example of what it means to be a Disciple of Jesus Christ. May each of our ministries here at St. John Neumann give us an opportunity to be the servant of the hungry, the poor, children, the grieving...everyone! May we be like Jesus; may we wash each other's feet in loving service and stewardship.

- CRSP men and women have grown a lot in teachings our purpose for the next retreats next spring.
- RCIA has now 28 candidates studying deeply to join our church next year with their sacraments; they will help and participate with homeless people.
- Genuine ministry is done for and offered for the assistance and aid of those to whom one is ministering, not for the advantage of the one who is ministering, this way young ministry group.
- Prayer group is a ministry, liturgical, service and spiritually-supporting—although we certainly receive advantages from it—the ministry do because of the lift and help we can give to others. The fundamental aspect is what they give, not what they receive they meet every Monday night.
- Our other ministries are preparing for the end of the year events.
- Next month we will have more details about it.

First of all, in today's Gospel, Jesus tells us in effect, and it is something He wants us to understand and pursue as a goal, For the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve. Service, giving of ourselves, is at the focal point of stewardship. This is the main purpose of the ministries in the Hispanic community.

## **Liturgical Council: Pat**

Altar servers, Extraordinary Ministers, Lectors and welcome committee all had a few sign-ups from the Share Fair.

Altar servers have had a training and refresher course already. E.M.'s will do training in Nov., and Lectors are having trouble scheduling a new training at the Ambo.

Tech had problems with the Gus Lloyd DVD, Dennis is scheduling a training for handling these issues.

Patsy Shontz is retiring from playing at the 11am Mass, but will continue to play at the 5pm vigil, and the 9am mass.

Life Teen Band is beginning to solidify, with some solid voices and instruments.

ALL SAINTS DAY falls on Sunday so there will be no extra masses.

ALL SOULS DAY (mass of remembrance for families of deceased of the parish last year) Mass will be at 7pm on Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Betty Lind will inform us of the Liturgical needs the week before.

No report on Gus Lloyd or commitment Sunday since meeting was prior to these events.