

October 30, 2013

PRESENT: Rick Steele, Ken Ramsden, Rose Powers, Lori Prince, Joshua Rorick, John Dzwonkowski, Claudia Williams

Meeting began at 7:04 PM with Rick leading us in prayer.

We welcomed Joshua to our commission and look forward to working with him – he will add much to our plans and discussions.

Rick and John explained the benefits our parish would experience by advancing our electronic/technological capacities in relation to our faith formation classes. The **Elmo Projector** was explained – it can be used in conjunction with DVDs, computers, laptops, televisions, etc. It's a most adaptable tool and will improve presentations throughout all of our parish activities (including the teens and the K of C). The cost is around \$800 and this commission agreed it would be a step in the right direction in assisting all facets of our parish educational presentations. Another advantage of the Elmo Projector is that it is up-to-date, more compact, more versatile, and easily portable.

John reported that at yesterday's staff meeting, Fr. Theo and our parish staff would like to see only one event scheduled per weekend. After much discussion, it was agreed that parishioners would benefit from having a choice of various events to attend and that things could be arranged in such a manner that presentations would not overlap. Our commission's main goal is to offer various opportunities to our parishioners that would enrich their faith and their spiritual lives. Limiting ourselves to only one event would short change our parishioners and indicate that we are not addressing the issue of educating both adults and children. It seems reasonable to us that compromises may be mutually reached that would allow for additional programs.

If the parish staff would allow us, we would be willing to do set up and clean up duties for our events in order to allow more programs to be offered. This process has been in use before and we are willing to accept the responsibility of participating in this aspect of event presentations.

It was also mentioned that some parishioners are going to other parishes to attend their spiritual events. This only encourages us to present more opportunities, update our presentations, and seek ways to maintain and improve attendance in our parish.

#### **SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS**

\*\* November 16 and 17 – Student and Parishioner Art Show with the theme, *Opening the Door of Faith*.

\*\* December 8 – the Feast of the Immaculate Conception: The Journey of Faith Labyrinth will focus on Mother Mary. Our commission will willingly set up on Saturday, Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> between 1:00 and 3:00 and clean up after this presentation on Sunday afternoon.

\*\* January 24 and 26, 2014 – G.I.F.T. Program: Various Forms of Spirituality. It was suggested we find three presenters that would introduce us to their unique spiritual traditions. Both Fr. Theo and Fr. John Wheeler came to mind and we would like to find a nun (Sister Colette of St. Alexander Parish was mentioned) who would also like to participate in this program. Each would have a half hour to enlighten us and give those in attendance an example of their prayer and spiritual life for personal reflection. Because the avenue of spirituality is so broad and various, it is thought another, similar presentation could be done at a later date.

\*\* February 23 – program to be determined

\*\* March – Sundays of this month will feature Spotlight on Catholicism between the Masses as a way of enriching our Lenten experience, which we understand will require us to take responsibility for setup and take-down by ourselves.

\*\* March 16 – Parish mini-retreat

\*\* April – nothing above and beyond the already scheduled Lenten events

\*\* May 10 – Children's variety show reflecting lessons learned this session.

The Evangelization Commission will present parishioners with a book at Christmas time entitled "Dynamic Catholic." Our commission would welcome the opportunity to work with this commission by offering "book talk" events where this publication could be discussed among parishioners occasionally either through the Advent season or beyond – times to be mutually determined.

At 9:15 PM this meeting closed with recitation of the Our Father.

*Respectfully submitted by Claudia Williams, Education Commission Secretary*