

Pastoral Church and Family Life Commission

February 13, 2018

The meeting began at 6:00 PM with an opening prayer led by Jim Savage. In attendance were Rena Lagasse, Cathy Bowker, Sue Dugal, Dr. Jim Savage, Fr. Dave Raymond, Pastor; Deacon Carl Gallagher, Janis Gallagher, Janet Beckwith, Pastoral Life Coordinator; Jon Langley, Cindy Gagnon and Steve Gagnon.

Two handouts were reviewed:

1. Church & Family Life Commission Description.
2. Goals from the Visioning Process.
 - a. Communication
 - b. External Hospitality
 - c. Internal Hospitality
 - d. Sharing the Faith
 - e. Strengthening the Family

Cathy Bowker expressed concern regarding the overlap of commission responsibilities with other commissions.

Deacon Carl Gallagher and Janis Gallagher have been appointed by Fr. Dave to be responsible for Marriage Preparation and Baptismal Preparation for the Parish of the Precious Blood. The group brainstormed what activities are actively in place in the Parish.

Family Life:

1. **Marriage Preparation:** Deacon Carl & Janis Gallagher
Program: 'Transformed in Love' (Archdiocese of Boston).
Time: 12 Hours
2. **Baptismal Preparation:** Deacon Carl & Janis Gallagher
Program: 'One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism' (Diocese of Rockville Centre, NY)
Time: Meets monthly for one hour at the Parish Center.
3. **Family Prayer:**
Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine, Family Prayer Activity.
Our Lady of the Precious Blood, July devotions, traveling portrait and prayer journal.
Divine Mercy traveling image.
4. **'Catholic Mom's Connect':** Coordinator, Keren Morin & Amber Lahey.
Meets twice per month.
5. **'That Man Is You':** Coordinator, Jon Langley.
Meets Saturday mornings weekly.
6. **World Marriage Day Dinner** – Weekend of World Marriage Day.

Activities to consider: Vocations subcommittee, training for parents, marriage enrichment, couples communication retreats, publicize counseling services, programs for widowed & divorced, family communication seminars.

Church Life:

1. Community Spirit:

Annual Parish Picnic
Small Faith Sharing Groups
ACTS Men's & Women's Groups

2. Ecumenism:

Beth Moore Bible Study – meets weekly.
The Caribou Ecumenical Food Pantry
Bread of Life Soup Kitchen

3. Reaching Out:

Prayer Shawl Ministry
External Hospitality (Nancy Saucier) Communion to the Shut-ins.

4. Communication:

Parish Website
Parish App
Social Media: Facebook & Twitter.
Communication Protocol, internal and external communication processes
Bulletin boards with local and Parish-wide information.

Activities to consider:

World Day of Prayer (Ecumenical) yearly in January.
'Catholics Come Home', outreach to non-practicing Catholics.
Conduct a Parish Census (last one done in 2012).
Update our Parish Photo Directory.

Fr. Dave joined the meeting and spoke about the "Foundational Ministries" which are currently the parish commissions and the possibility of establishing an Evangelization Commission and a Vocations Commission as suggested by Bishop Deeley.

An Evangelization Commission would consist of the RCIA Team, Small Faith Sharing Group Coordinators, Catholics Come Home Leaders.

Fr. Dave would also like to see the Church & Family Life Commission meet for prayer and fellowship.
Fr. Steve and Fr. Agustin could cook an Indian style dinner at 3 sites.

Church and Family Life traditionally meets the 2nd Monday of the even months at 6:00 PM.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, April 9, 2018 at St. Mary's Conference Room. Jim will call Kim about reserving the room.

Meeting adjourned with closing prayer led by Fr. Dave.

JLB