

St. Anne's Pastoral Council Meeting

February 21, 2013

In attendance: Father Brandon Ware, Father Joseph Nguyen, Father Bill Kraft, Deacon Greg Yeager, Joan Cahill, Donna Dominguez, Tom Driscoll, Cheri Evans, Frank Flores, Christina Herrera, Juan Herrera, Glenn Lewis, Laura Sandoval

The meeting opened with Adoration, Evening Prayer, and Benediction in the chapel.

The business part of the meeting was lead by Vice-chair Person, Glenn Lewis, as Annette Murdaca was attending the L. A. Congress, and began with the approval as-written of the January minutes

Committee Reports:

Finance Council Report: Tom Driscoll reported that the Diocesan audit of St. Anne's financial records went well.

Petal Ministry Report: Donna Dominguez reported that we will have our now annual Day of Reflection (as begun last year) this year in August. She indicated that the feature presentations of the Petal ministries on Name Tag Sunday have been received well and with good response. St. Anne's School will be the featured presentation in March. Donna also reported that more name tags are being used on Name Tag Sunday indicating that more parishioners are now participating likely due to the induction of exchanging them with a prayer partner. Council representatives from the majority of the Masses reported that there was good coverage at each of the doors going into the church.

Youth Program Report: Cristina Herrera reported that Life Night was going to be on the subject of how a new Pope is selected in anticipation of the selection of the successor to Pope Benedict XVI. She also reported on the success of the recent 7th Grade Confirmation Retreat, indication that 115 candidates participated making it the best turn out to date.

Youth Ministry Report: Tony Moreno was unable to attend.

Thornton Petal Ministry Report: Laura Sandoval reported that weekly Adoration will begin on Monday, March 4th, from 6:00 – 7:00 PM, and that on the last Monday of the month they will also have Reconciliation from 6:00 – 7:00 PM and Mass at 7:00 PM. They are also seeking to start a youth group. A report on the catechism classrooms was also given indicating that dry wall repair, light fixture renovation, and new paint were complete. It was also mentioned that they are planning the construction of a Grotto beginning this summer.

Pastor's Report:

Drop In Center (Annie's Arbor) : A fence for the safety of the children has been installed around the building. Catholic Charities responded to Fr. Brandon's call and indicated that they will proceed with the plans to open the center.

Street Closure: The Street Closure is slated for vote by the City Council on Wednesday, March 6th, at 7:00 PM at City Hall. All council and ministry members are encouraged to attend as well as engage in a letter, card, or email campaign to the individual City Council members in support of the project.

Bishop's Ministry Appeal: Fr. Brandon is going to be speaking at all of the Masses this coming weekend on behalf of the Bishop's annual appeal to all of the parishes in the Diocese. Also, all Council members were encouraged to read *Best Practices in Parish Stewardship* by Dr. Zech. Fr. Brandon expressed that he was impressed by this book/author that he is currently reading for one of his classes.

Communication: Reminder to all of the Petal chair persons to send out the Petal Meeting minutes to all of the members of their various ministries.

Bishop Blaire's Visit to St. Anne's: Bishop Blaire met Tuesday with the Ministry Team where he affirmed all that is taking place currently at St. Anne's. All comments were positive with particular regard to organization and involvement. He expressed that St. Anne's was more advanced in the area of unity than other parishes he has visited.

Other Business:

Follow up on Fr. Brandon's request that the Council research cultural unity and the building of community in our parish:

Tom Driscoll articulately presented extensive research on his part regarding how to build one parish community that involved a combination of resources that included Pope John Paul's Papal Encyclical on Culture. The Pope mentioned that we are ethno-centric people; that no culture is monolithic, and that each culture has a "safety zone" and a "fear zone," the "fear zone" dealing with our ability to be comfortable around others of a different culture than our own. He further mentioned an area of "graced space" that was an area in which we could step out without being pushed back. It was from this concept of "graced spaced" that the Council engaged in a discussion of ways in which to create this non-threatening environment that might engage our multi-cultural parish to come together as one community. A common thread became over food and various social events involving cultural food encounters were shared by Council members. The Movie Ministry was also another avenue of "graced space."

From his research, Tom also shared the use of Freud's *Iceberg Theory* which indicated that to expand our hearts we need to explore our much larger subconscious myths and beliefs regarding cultures other than our own, not just what we display now on the surface. Lastly, Tom shared that we have a lot more that unites us than divides us such as we all worship the same God, what goes on in family life, and that we owe each other respect for the fact we are holy.

Ultimately, Fr. Brandon expressed again that culture needs to come together through our youth. The monthly 6:00 PM Bilingual Teen Mass is one effort that facilitates this happening.

The next meeting will be March 21, 2013 at 7:00PM.

The meeting was closed in prayer lead by Christina Herrera.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Cheri Evans.