

MINUTES
Family Life Committee Meeting
Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Present: Maury Oehler, Donna Cipra, Verna Panka, Doris Krogman, Mary Novey,
Nancy Becker, Jeri Kluesner

Absent: Mark & Ann Grunwald, Lettie Oehler, John Chaffee, Shirley Cipra, Rob &
Vicki Samples

Meeting opened at 7:05 with a prayer to the Holy Spirit. Maury moved to accept the minutes, 2nd by Donna.

Account balance reported at \$724. 04. Verna requested reimbursement for postage. The committee signed a get-well card for MG, recovering from surgery.

There are seven blessed angels available to distribute for the **Angel Project**. Diane Day had her surgery and she will resume making more angels as soon as she is able. The committee signed a get-well card for her. Discussion on whether to distribute angels/prayer cards to parish members whose spouse is not a parish member. Decision to go ahead with this practice, when and if we know about the situation.

Welcome breakfast for new parishioners is being postponed until fall. Tentative date will be September 11. Planning will take place this spring. Verna will contact Mark Forsythe and the men's group about cooking for the event. There is the potential for 5-6 new parishioners joining our Parish after completion of RCIA in addition to the new families already identified. Committee members will periodically check with rectory for new families and observe back of church for presence of Welcome Booklets.

Support Group numbers have not increased. Doris will publicize it once more in the bulletin and see how many people show up next month. If numbers do not increase, the group will be dropped.

Prayer Partner volunteers have all been matched with a Confirmation student or CCD teacher. It was suggested that partners send a note or card before Valentine's Day. Students at Prairie Catholic and in the CCD program received a personal note from Family Life explaining that they have someone praying for them until they receive the sacrament. Information was also presented to Fr. Weighner, 8th grade teachers, and the principal.

Fr. W has OK'd Fr. Sam Martin for the **3 Day Mission** in 2011. Verna contacted Fr. Sam and he responded immediately saying that he would be glad to lead a Mission. However, he is already committed for the Lenten season. He would consider offering an Advent Mission if the Bishop does not transfer him. He should know by May and suggested that we contact him again at that time. The committee decided to have Verna confirm with him that we want him for the Advent Mission if he is available.

The “**Diocesan Directory of Offices and Resources**” arrived today. The committee examined it and determined that it offers very little information that we cannot get via the Internet. We will not purchase it. It will be shown to Fr. Weighner and he can decide if the parish should purchase it at this time.

After examining the **Lenten booklet/study guide** “Awaiting Pure Love”, the group did not believe this to be something they wanted to choose. The committee expressed concern that the Faith Alive study sessions are not yet complete and that there may not be enough interest in another study session. The committee decided not to pursue anything for this year. Mary will look up other books in the series from last year “The Seven Last Words of Christ” and will send us information (to be considered for next year). The committee also **examined several books** shared by Maury Oehler from his personal library (“To Whom Shall We Go”, “Do I Have to Go?”, “Did Adam & Eve have Bellybuttons?”, “Bringing up Geeks”). They were very well received. He has several copies of one of the books and would make these available for purchase. Mary suggested that we write a highlight for each book, cost and how to obtain copies. Then this information could be placed in the bulletin as suggested reading for Lent. Another idea was that these books would make nice Confirmation gifts. Maury will write up something for the bulletin. Nancy and Mary will proof his copy before he submits it.

New Business

Verna reminded us of the **Christian Experience Weekend** sponsored by St. Patrick Parish in Waukon, IA...Men’s—Feb. 25-27 and Women’s—Mar. 4-6. She has copies of the registration form or more information can be obtained by contacting one of these email addresses.... dave.mellick@ia.usda.gov sjkmeyer@yahoo.com
peglegtr@peoplepc.com dwey@acegroup.cc

Meeting closed with a prayer. **Next meeting** will be March 16at 7:00 in the St. Gabriel’s teacher lounge.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Becker