

MINUTES

Family Life Committee

Thursday, February 16, 2012

Present: Doris Krogman, Mary Novey, Maury Oehler, Verna Panka, Ann Grunwald, Mary Prindle, Deanna Hromodka, Nancy Becker

Absent: Lettie Oehler, Shirley Cipra, Jeri Kluesner

Meeting called to order at 6:50 in St. Gabriel's teacher lounge. Opened with a prayer and petitions for healing. November minutes accepted as written. Current balance is \$718.76.

Diane Day is making more ceramic angels for the **angel project**. Verna will get a list of names to Nancy so that she can begin making prayer cards.

Many favorable comments have been received regarding the **prayer partner** project. There are a few students who have not been contacted with a note by their prayer partner. Nancy will put a reminder announcement in the bulletin. Confirmation is scheduled for April 25.

The **Welcome project** for new parishioners has not received any names. Verna will contact Fr. Weighner to see if he still wants our group involved in the welcoming process. Maury will check with Lana to see if there are any new parish members. Mary will check to see that welcome pamphlets are in the back of both churches and make sure that the pamphlets have been updated.

A **5-day mission** has been scheduled for November 11-15, led by a Fathers of Mercy priest. Verna will get details from Fr. W so that we can begin putting announcements in the bulletin. This will encourage people to reserve the dates on their calendars.

Maury has agreed to offer the "**Changes in the Mass**" study sessions again due to the success of the activity. The committee decided that we need to wait until after Lenten study sessions or until next fall before offering it again.

The committee has heard many positive comments about the **anniversary blessing** offered by Fr. Weighner on the first weekend of the month.

At our last meeting, the committee decided to pursue a **presentation for parents** "Teaching the Way of Love" instead of a marriage enrichment presentation this year. Verna needs to follow up on this by contacting Alice and Jeff Heinzen for available dates and by contacting Fr. Weighner for approval. We would be looking for a presentation in September or October.

Family Life Committee members are receiving a copy of the **LaCrosse Roads publication**. Maury will check into the possibility of sending it to all of the parish council and education committee members.

Ann Grunwald gave a presentation on a project for Lent...sponsoring a **Seder ceremony**. Just as Jesus celebrated the Passover with the Apostles at the Last Supper, this ceremony is a traditional celebration in the Jewish faith on Passover. It is a symbolic meal with foods representing the escape from Egypt by the Israelites. It would be presented by Rabbi Folberg (a Messianic Rabbi) and would be followed by a Passover meal. The presentation and meal take about two hours. The committee was interested in this project and the date chosen for the event was Thursday, March 29 (week before Holy Week) from 6:00-8:00. Fr. Weighner said that he had never attended a Seder and plans to participate. Ann Grunwald will put an announcement in the bulletin to garner interest. Vicki Samples may be an additional contact person. Deadline for registration will be prior to our next Family Life Committee meeting. The FVL committee will plan the meal at our next meeting after Ann gets input on requirements from Rabbi Folberg and the ok from Fr. Weighner.

The Lenten study sessions for **Faith Alive** will focus on the book "Death on a Friday Afternoon" by Richard Neuhaus. The first session will be February 26 and it will run for 6 sessions.

Doris reminded the committee of the **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** vigil to be held every Friday thru Saturday during Lent. Sign-up sheets are available in the back of church or at the parish offices.

Our **next meeting** will be held on Thursday, March 22 at 6:30 in the St. Gabriel's teacher lounge. We are changing the meeting time due to conflicts of our committee members to the 3rd Thursday of the month.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Becker
Family Life Committee Secretary