

CORPUS CHRISTI CHURCH
Pastoral Council Minutes
April 9, 2007

Present: Mary Jo Brown, Don Butner, Dennis Klimek, Angela Krulls, Darrel LaVigne, Liz McNamara, Janet Mietlicki, Mary Mietlicki, Kelly Millington, Lisa Partlow, Cindy Racette, Sr. Sue Wiczynski

Absent: Joe Barra, Dick Cody, Father Marty Fisher, Mike Hetz, Diane Marco,

Guests: Judy Mullins, Jack Sweeney, Susan Sweeney

1 Opening of Meeting: The meeting was opened at 7:02 p.m. Vice President Darrel LaVigne welcomed guests Judy Mullins, Jack Sweeney and Susan Sweeney. Angela Krulls led us in opening prayer, which was held in the Daily chapel. Kelly Millington led us in the reading of the Mission Statement. We were asked to keep our travelers, Father Marty and Mike Hetz, in prayer. Don Butner was welcomed back from his recovery period. Darrel congratulated those involved with the Easter Week services, saying that it was a wonderful experience and testament to the leadership here.

2 Youth Report: Mary Mietlicki reported on various activities. The Monopoly Game raised close to \$2,000, with still some pledges to be received. A flower sale fund raiser will be held in the spring. Called to be Church name tags should be done by the next meeting. On 4/20 there will be a lock-in at the Y, Corpus Christi and a couple of other churches. Brian Campbell has been in touch with core groups from other churches, including other denominations. They will be raffling four tickets to a White Sox game in Boston. Disappointment was expressed in attendance at the youth Stations of the Cross. Sister Sue said they are thinking of doing something different next year, as this parish is not devoted to the Stations. Darrel suggested that this be discussed in the Cluster. Judy suggested that the kids invite people from the ambo.

3 Generations of Faith: Sister Sue explained that the last one for this church year is actually October. "Jesus I am" begins April 22 and will be our last full session until September. On May 20, we will have a one-day Jesus Festival, "The Road to Emmaus." Beginning in October, the sessions will be held from Tuesday through Sunday. We have received wonderful comments about the last two sessions. Families did attend the Holy Week services. The number of teenagers is a byproduct of Generations.

4 Other Activities: Garage Sale/Craft Fair/Car Wash Saturday, September 18, for the benefit of the building fund. July 27-28 in Boston, Women of Faith conference. (also in Rochester)

5 Pastoral Council Discernment: Judy reported that Cindy, Janet and Mary Ann will call the many nominees for Pastoral Council, by April 24. On 4/26 at 7:30 p.m. the informational meeting will be held. Judy asked that as many as possible present members attend. (She distributed a schedule of dates, along with the names of the nominees.) Peggy McArthur will be doing the prayer, a chalkboard will be set up for listing of talents and gifts - Kelly will do that. There are 7 openings and 3 alternate openings. Alternates should attend the meetings. Lisa and Darrel can help at the informational meeting, but not at the discernment, since they are nominees. Angela will also help. Mike is leading the informational meeting. After discussion of method of counting and announcing votes, it was unanimously agreed that the votes be counted privately and then those chosen will be announced. Judy will be in attendance. The rooms are reserved.

5 Called to be Church:

A **Conception to Age 5** was the topic of the last meeting.. The three parishes came up with a suggestion for children's liturgy, nursery and pre-K school at St. Edward's,. Parents/tots meet weekly at St. Edwards, break-out sessions in GOF at Corpus Christi, rocking chairs; babysitting at 9 a.m. Mass at St. Edwards, our gathering space where children/parents can hear, sitting on couch at St. Mary's. Unmet needs: parent resources, welcoming environment to Mass, welcoming attitude toward children, verbalizing welcoming of young families. They talked about having a little book bag for kids, incorporate families in liturgical celebration. We need to: have a statement from the pastor welcoming, invite all baptized during year on Holy Family Sunday, institute and continue blessing , church fair with appropriate activities, babysitting for Christmas, a young parents' Mass (but don't be exclusive). Even though there was not time to bring up all suggestions, there is an opportunity at next Cluster meeting to do that. Liz thinks our Mission encompasses those topics. Judy suggested having a chair in the gathering area for parents, maybe a rocking chair. Don thinks we should congratulate ourselves for what we are doing. But we need to keep moving forward and not be comfortable with where we are. Kelly noted that there are 10 more topics to be discussed within the Cluster and that we have to establish priorities.

B Children 6-18 years of age. Sister Sue listed things we do for this age group: Children participate and serve Mass, Liturgy of Word catecheses to about age 8, GOF, Mass, Bible Study, retreats, service activities, preparation of rituals,. Because they are assisting with services they are experiencing catechesis, leadership institute, NCYC, sacraments, Susan Sweeney mentioned Eucharist and Reconciliation. Reconciliation is being moved from 4th to 2d grade, per direction from the Vatican. She listed the five sessions: Parents first, four with children and catechist, a video and reconciliation Eucharist preparation. (Four sessions plus 2 ½ hour retreat) They are trying to make it easier for the parents to come back. Feedback is that they are comfortable with the process. When we look at what we can do better, we need to look at older children who have not been prepared. How are we going to do that? Kelly mentioned that there are about 8 children in RCIA now. Going to the new church allowed us to make a lot of changes. We ask that there not be photos, ushers have been wonderful.

There was then discussion of the DESIRED OUTCOMES. Generations of Faith has helped with attracting individuals and families who have not received sacraments. There has been a good response to the Welcome Home Program. The question was posed about whether or not we need Catholic schools in this area. (This will likely be discussed.) Jack thinks this topic is the first time the Cluster will be opening the door to discussion of substantial financial resources. In the proposed questions for this next meeting, Sue is not hearing - What can we do TOGETHER? Darrel disagreed. The use of St. Mary's (Ballston Spa and Waterford) and St.Clements by our parishioners was mentioned.

Darrel asked that members review the agenda for the next meeting and use your email to contact any of those who are part of the Cluster meetings. The meetings will continue all summer. It will probably be through the website that we communicate. We should discuss that at the next meeting.

6 Spring Enrichment: Sister Sue encouraged us to attend. Please refer to the rcda.org web site.

Sister Sue led us in closing prayer.

ADJOURNMENT AT 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Jo Brown, Recording Secretary