

Pastoral Council
3-15-17

In attendance: Mary Chollet, Liesl Wuest, Susan Hackett, Maureen Wortz, Marianne Duffy, Father Ed, and Carly Tolson

Pastor's report:

- 1) Follow up on Parish Life Center – Tom Grogan and others from the PLC Committee presented an abbreviated version of the project at the Spring Ministry Lunch on March 12, and it was very well received. Contractors are being contacted this week for estimates, and the group is looking forward to hearing back about a more detailed cost approximation – hopefully, by mid-late April. Preliminary cost estimates were not shared at the Ministry Luncheon as the committee prefers to wait until the most accurate numbers are available.

- 2) PREP discussion: Susan Hackett summarized the meeting with Theresa Hedlund regarding the religious education program and how to make it more engaging and family oriented. Brainstorming took place to come up with some ideas to create a stronger sense of community. (Ex. basketball in gym after PREP, “Back to PREP” night in October, etc.) Father Ed's greater goal is to strengthen Family Faith Formation. Father Ed and Theresa Hedlund are meeting with someone next week to look at a new curriculum that might involve the family a bit more. Carly suggested that Father Ed serve as the speaker during Sacramental retreats as a natural opportunity to connect with a captive audience of parishioners. We also agreed that the more the PREP students can be involved in regular Sunday Mass, the greater parent attendance would be.

Ministries:

1. Save the date:
 - Fall Ministry Leadership Meeting - September 10 -12:30-2:30 **(later revised to 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 16)**
 - Welcome Sunday - September 24, 8:30-1:30 **(later revised to 8:30 – 1:30 Sunday, Oct. 1).**

2. Easter- How do we make the most out of the large audience to encourage people to come to Mass more often? The general feeling of the group was that the liturgy and a welcoming message is the most influential factor. The idea of passing out seeds was considered, and Susan Hackett will bring this up to the Welcoming Committee. Liesl also mentioned the idea of having the students bring up their Operation Rice Bowl.

3. Mary shared that the Spring Ministry Lunch was very well attended. The Lenten speaker series was a big hit, as was the Music of Praise and Peace concert. We are always looking for more idea of experiences that reach families, so keep the ideas coming!