

Minutes for Parish Faith Formation March 23 2009

Participants

- Toni Chambers, Larry Huiras, and Kenneth Smolinske

The meeting opened with prayer and reflection on the weekly readings.

This was followed by a discussion of how to make the FF committee more effective.

- Parish FF is structured as a committee. Is the structure working? Why or why not?
- Where does that FF committee stand? It's not broken – some things are working well – maybe it just needs time.
- The committee needs sense of direction – we have been spinning our wheels.
- One option is to continue to muddle along – another option is to have a new stewardship call. Perhaps sponsor a listening session to get additional input.
- Some concerns are more general and beyond the scope of the committee:
 - How do we develop a sense of welcome at a parish the size of St Patrick's?
 - How can we be effectively welcoming to both new and current parishioners?
 - What other process might be more effective in these areas?
- In order to be an effective visionary committee, the FF committee needs to:
 - Surface visionary leaders with a passion for faith formation.
 - Work more closely with the Liturgy committee to hold up the vision of Liturgical Catechesis.

What direction should this committee be taking?

- The question for FF is: How do we help everyone grow in their Faith?
- Baptism and marriage preparation are opportunities for evangelization. At these times we have contact with people who are not active or who have very low activity in the parish.
- First, the FF committee needs to be supportive the other formation committees and acknowledge and celebrate the good works that they have accomplished.
- The FF committee needs to collaborate with the Liturgy committee, which is under still new leadership. Time is needed to see how we will grow together and better understand how we are interwoven especially with regard to liturgical catechesis.
- The decision was made to bring all the formation committees together 2 or 3 times a year (with food) to discuss:
 - Where are we at?
 - Where do we need to go?

Before we have the committee get-together, we need to have a planning meeting.

- Check school calendar
- Chose a Tuesday night in June before the 15th – June 2 or 9 for a get-together.
- Inform the committees of the get-together

For the get-together meeting, discuss:

- How are the committees working?
- What's working and what's not?
- What would the members of the committees like to see?

Next FF meeting – April 27, 2009