

November 12, 2018

OLS Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Liz Ebert

Present: Msgr. Robert Emery, Fr. Rich, Sister Mary Selina, Maureen Srivinasa, Mimi Hermann, Tom Vena, Liz Ebert, Melanie Chambers, Carol Richards

Absent: Sandra Carless, Joe Tabia, Christal White, Chuck Chambers, Jean McArthur, Reggie Canal, Michelle Lomuscio

Minutes approved from last meeting

Cluster Reports

Word:

Spiritual Date Night was a success. Approximately 20 couples attended. It was led by Ester and George Van Buskirk. They have been married 53 years and are experts in "Theology of the Body" and Pre-Cana leaders.

It was decided another evening would be scheduled and the cluster will discuss possible topics and speakers.

i.e.: "How to Have a Prayer Life as a Couple" or "How to Raise Catholic Children in our Modern World"

Worship:

Mimi and Tom reported that our Eucharistic Ministers have been consistently arriving.

Community:

Dawn and Jon Walsh are ready to host the Advent wreath making after the 10am mass on December 2nd. Keri and Kevin Lonieski will coordinate the refreshments.

It was recommended the cluster research options for a trip to Sight and Sound Theater for their Easter performances.

Service:

IHN was experiencing difficulty with the stove not working.

Starting in January 2019, the food pantry will switch to a bi-monthly distribution schedule because of the lack of volunteers. They will stagger with Saint Joseph's monthly food distribution so there will be coverage for three of the four Saturdays a month.

Fall Community Event

Ocktoberfest will be cancelled because of low attendance. Instead the community cluster will partner with Frank Franzonia who coordinated the parish event for the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows before and after the 5:30pm mass on Saturday, September 15th. They had a very strong attendance and it may be something we can build on while also honoring Our Blessed Lady.

Respect Life Ministry

Sister Mary Selina has re-formed a parish Pro-Life group. Currently they are an energetic group of seven. Their initial focus has been on mother and child but eventually they would like to expand their scope to also advocate for the elderly. The group will place an ad in the upcoming parish bulletin as well as on the parish Facebook page inviting more members. Their first event will be during Advent. They have partnered with "First Choice" a Christian organization with multiple locations but they are working specifically with the Montclair office. The event is a Baby Bottle Boomerang: small baby bottle banks provided by First Choice will be distributed to all the Religious Education children and school children beginning November 26th and then after the masses December 1st and 2nd. The families will be encouraged to collect spare change and donations to fill their bottles and return them to the church throughout Advent.

They are coordinating efforts for a number of other events throughout the year:

March for Life

"Good Counsel Homes"

Friday Prayer Devotion

Coffee and Donuts will continue after the 11:30am mass on Sundays

HSA Report

Michelle Lomuscio was not able to attend because she is making final preparations for the Tricky Tray but reports that the event is sold out and promises to be another very successful fundraiser.

Next Meeting: January 7th 2019 - 7:30PM