

St Therese Faith Formation Committee
01-12-2010 Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Michelle Pellman, Nancy Seaman, John Faundeen, Bridget Dahlin, Eric Schmidt, Doug Basche, Cathy Anderson, Father Hal Barber, Tammy Badger, Kathleen Hawks

Not Present: Pat Starr, Mike McInerney, Barbara Lockwood, Karen Heiling, Twyla Steinberger

Prayer – led by father Hal Barber.

Minutes – Motion was not held to approve November minutes.

New Business

- Mic Pellman welcomed our newest member, Kathleen Hawks and provided an overview of the FFC for Kathleen.
- Eric Schmidt relayed that he has a job opportunity in Boise, ID. Eric's last week at St. Therese will be the 18th of January. He is working with Father to establish a middle- and high-school transition program. Mic asked Eric to provide a top 5 list of ways this Committee can help to make the transition easier. The FFC wishes all the best to Eric and his family.
- Bridget discussed that with Eric's departure the Children's and Youth Mardi Gras activities would be very challenging. Bridget recommended and the committee agreed the event should be tabled until next year. **Decision:** Plan to hold similar event in 2011.
- Mic announced that Sign-Up Sunday is set for March 21st. Any changes to the booklet are due by January 31st. Mic is working to get us all a softcopy from which we review and directly record our edits. **Action:** FFC to review the Stewardship Ministries Committee descriptions and provide edits by January 29th.
- Mic provided an update on the Parish survey. She relayed that Pat Starr suggested getting a rough draft out for comments. The official open dates will be February 13 through February 28th. March 9th is the meeting date the FFC is planning to use for examining the survey results. **Action:** Kathleen Hawks and Nancy Seaman volunteered to compose the initial Mass introduction for a FFC member and the following weeks reminder announcements. **Action:** Mic will create the blurb for Father Barber's monthly letter due this January 15th. **Action:** Bridget will coordinate getting the St. Therese web calendar updated for the survey dates. **Action:** Mic will contact Shirley Donnelly about posting the survey link on the St.

Therese website. Cathy Anderson suggested that getting the results out to the Parish by the end of May is a reasonable target for us. **Action:** Cathy also volunteered to perform any data entry of hard-copy survey forms we receive. The survey timeline is below:

November 2009	Survey Final draft complete
December 2009	Test Group identified <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 10 to 15 parishioners provided by Shirley Donnelly.- Looking for how the survey was to take as well as how long it took to complete.
January 6 - 15	Test group takes survey
January 8 – 22	Follow-up with Test Group by phone
January 28 – Feb 28	Marketing survey to all Parishioners <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monthly letter – due 15th of month (January 15)• Bulletin – due by Tuesdays at Noon (hoping for cover page)• Website – on calendar, scrolling feature, and URL link• Mass announcements – FFC introduces at first weekend and then reminders in following two weekend announcements.
February 13 - 28	Survey Opens <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Duration – Discussed including 3 weekends.• Dates – Will start weekend of February 13 – 14• Email blasts of survey link to all parishioners – also an email reminder after second Mass weekend.• Allow Survey to remain open additional few days after advertised deadline for any stragglers. Announced survey dates will be February 13 through the 28th. The survey actually won't close until March 1st or 2nd.
March 2010	Survey Results – Review and Analysis
March 20 - 21, 2010	Sign-up Sunday weekend
	How communicate findings to Parishioners – Will discuss at February FFC meeting. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monthly Letter insert• Mass announcements• Parish bulletin

- Email
- FFC report on St. Therese website

Regular Business – Sub-Committee Reports

- **Childrens** – Bridget Dahlin relayed that the Vacation Bible School (VBS) dates will be August 2-5, 2010. There is a volunteer meeting on January 21 at 6:30PM. Mic challenged each FFC member to get the word out on the volunteer meeting as last year was poorly attended. **Action:** FFC to spread the word for the January 21 VBS volunteer meeting. The VBS is intended for all youth 4 years old through 4th grade. Bridget is attending an Expo on January 30th related to VBS and would like assistance.
- **Youth** – Eric Schmidt stated the first semester has ended. Used the St. Mary's curriculum for the middle-school children. He indicated that feedback has been positive to date. High school students used a curriculum that Eric assembled. Attendance down recently which might be related to the weather. Confirmation is Saturday, January 16. Eric expects around 30 students. A new program was used this year. Overall, he was pleased with the confirmation class this year.
- **Adult** – Cathy Anderson discussed more fully the CD of devotions display rack idea. There are many sources for the actual CDs that cost between \$1 and \$3 a piece. The Diocese has a display rack all stocked that they are willing to loan us as a trial period to gage the level of interest by the Parish. Much discussion about coordinating with the Environment Committee who has established guidelines for displays in the gathering space. Further discussion on whether a wall-mounted display would work better than a freestanding unit. **Decision:** The FFC endorses the idea of obtaining the Diocese CD display rack for a trial period. **Action:** Cathy will attempt to get the rack for the Lenten season. Doug Basche reported that Joe Rutten has agreed to speak to St. Therese during Lent. The talk would be around 45 minutes. The subject will be Lent-related and occur on one of the Fish Fry Fridays at 7:00PM. Alternate dates are March 8th and March 15. **Action:** Doug to confirm the date with Joe Rutten. Mic was contacted by The Women's Faith Sharing group who would like to hold a retreat during the Lenten season. Because it is a faith formation event, our committee was contacted. Mic did not have all the information, but wanted to present the request to the group for thoughts and direction. **Action:** Mic will follow-up with Louise Johnson for more details. The committee's recommendation was to have the Faith Sharing group present the details of the retreat to Father Hal for approval.

- Vocations – John Faundeen relayed that the Serra organization had been contacted to learn more about this Catholic organization that focuses on vocations in the Church. Sam Nastase from St. Lamberts Parish provided an overview of Serra on December 9th. The sub-committee was present as well as several Knights of Columbus. Everyone learned about the Serra activities some of which may benefit our sub-committee. Support was also given to Sam when he sold Serra vocations magnets after all of the Masses at St. Therese January 9 and 10. All money raised goes to the Diocesan Vocations fund. Ron Seaman loaned a vocations DVD to the sub-committee. Five videos, each approximately 30-minutes in length, focused on specific vocations to the Church. The sub-committee is considering showing the video during the Fish Frys in Lent. Kathleen suggested that Father Barber talk about his personal call to the Priesthood. Bridget mentioned that the Diocese is planning to sponsor a “How to Setup a Vocations Committee” for the parishes. She will keep us apprised of when this will occur.

Closing Prayer led by Father Hal.

Next Meeting February 9, 6:30 pm.