

St Therese Faith Formation Committee
Tuesday, November 9th, 2010
6:30 pm

Minutes

Members present: Pat Starr, Tammy Badger, Deb Witte, Bridget Dahlin, Kathy Anderson, Kathleen Hawks, Twyla Steinberger, Michelle Pellman, Father David Stevens, John Faundeen, Barbara Lockwood, Doug Basche

- I. Prayer led by Father David.
- II. Approval of October minutes as submitted.
- III. Old Business
 - FFC Goals and minutes posting on the Parish website - Twyla Steinberger reported on whether our past posting, including our Committee goals, is following how the other St. Therese Committees are reporting their meeting minutes. Father indicated that the manner that the FFC has posted its minutes is fine and that the goals are commendable. Tammy Badger offered to maintain all of our minutes in a printed form for the long-term record.
 - FFC funding - Twyla reported that the Knights of Columbus have tabled any offers of funding to the FFC for the time being.
- IV. New Business
 - Twyla and Mic Pellman introduced Deb Witte as a new member of the FFC and explained a bit on the structure and function of the FFC for her. She is the St Therese representative on the Sioux Falls Catholic School Board.
 - RCIA support - Twyla asked Mike and Sheila Conrads how the FFC can assist this program. Sheila was concerned about follow-up and keeping these folks plugged in socially and parish-wise. Keeping them connected during RCIA may be a way to overcome this. Mike relayed that sponsors are needed and that this has been a challenge in the past. A specific need for a gentleman is needed now. Maybe the Knights of Columbus could be part of the solution for the immediate need. Kathleen Hawks indicated that she has been thinking of becoming a sponsor. Father interjected that a successful RCIA program needs strong sponsors, that we need to advertise in the bulletin, and he will do so also from the pulpit. Everyone needs to be hooked up somehow in the parish both socially and spiritually. Maybe a team of people interested in being sponsors could be formed that Father could train. Twyla suggested that someone from all of the Parish's committees could maybe spend 5-10 minutes during a RCIA session explaining what our various committees do. A social event to make

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connections and put faces to names for new members of Parish was also suggested by Father. The Rite of Welcome is being held in two weeks (21st of November) during the 10:45 Mass which is the first formal welcome to RCIA candidates to the Parish. Father wondered if we could personally invite the candidates to the Turkey Bingo being held that afternoon. Twyla offered that the FFC Adult Ministries could possibly lead these efforts. Father concurred with that idea. Father and the Adult Ministries will meet with Mike and Sheila to decide what action to take to support RCIA.

V. Sub-Committee Reports

- Children – Tammy Badger confirmed Pandomania has been chosen as the VBS theme, which allows sharing of the resources and costs with other parishes. Service projects are ready to go including volunteers to support those projects. The December service project is caroling with hot chocolate following on December 12th at 2:00. The January service project is a “Penny War.” February is slated as a Firefighter & Police recognition service project. March is to be Military service recognition.
- Youth – Bridget Dahlin reported that the 20th of November is first youth event and will be a Turkey Scavenger Hunt. Drivers and chaperones are lined up. 100 pounds of potatoes was unexpectedly donated for this event. A lunch will precede the hunt that starts at noon. Fundraising by the youth is being discussed. Pizza sales have been done previously. Still figuring how to do the fundraising. Trying to get youth (6-12 grade) involvement. Pat Starr relayed that any fundraiser needs to be targeted towards some idea and not just to raise money. A cookie dough fundraiser was inherited from previous commitments for this year. You purchase a “card” that allows you to order online and send it to anyone you desire. This needs to happen before June of 2011. 150 cards is our minimum order. Each card is around \$19 each with St. Therese receiving \$4 per. Twyla and Barbara Lockwood thought maybe this could be linked to Valentines Day – *Sweets for Sweets* as a possible theme. The Youth could make valentine cards that the cards could go in. Barbara has a lot of ‘love notes’ that could also be used for this project.
- Adult – Doug Basche reported on the Mother Therese movie, which was attended by 17 parishioners. CD sales were around 100. Father would like to have the CDs permanently at St. Therese. Discussion ensued on the placement within the Gathering Space and how many times the Environment Committee had to move the stand. Father will pursue how the stand can work out in the Gathering Space. Sub-Committee goal was for three speakers, a possible Bible study class, an Apologetics class, or other movies. Father relayed that Jeff Cavins will be doing an 8-week

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Bible study starting in January on Mondays from 6:45-8:00. Starting on the 3rd of January. FFC liked the idea. Twyla wondered if the 3rd of January might be on the heels of folks returning from their holiday travels. Father offered that the program could start on the 10th. Kathleen Hawks suggested that the notice could be put in other Parish bulletins, too. Father thought that would be fine as he is not worried about too many participants at this point. Eucharistic Adoration with an explanation of what military Chaplains do is being planned for November 17th. Father would like this Sub-Committee to try to plan some event once a month for the next six months. Deb Witte pointed that there are two Monday holidays that may affect some folks during the 8-week Bible study.

- Vocations – Twyla relayed Sister Eileen’s Jubilee celebration went well and Sister enjoyed it a lot! Father interjected that events like this need to be preserved some way. John Faundeen relayed that there was a Parish Youth a few years back that had undertaken to preserve St. Therese history and that he has scans of all the St Therese class pictures between 1966 and 1990. **Action:** John will follow up with Father Hal and Father Chuck to see where this ended up. The Sub-Committee met last night and decided to bring three possible projects to the FFC for discussion. One was to put a banner saying “Celebrate Vocations” without a date so that it could be used for anniversaries of Father’s ordination and other vocations-related events. Second item was to consider using a holy hour to focus on vocations. January 9-15th is the Vocations Week. Wednesday the 12th Father agreed to focus on this theme. Third item would be to have a forum including Father David, Deacon Mike and Sheila Conrads and Bridget representing the religious vocation from their three perspectives, sort of *Vocations Stories* theme. Initial thought was that this event could be on a January afternoon immediately after the 10:45 Mass with a soup and sandwich through a sponsorship with the Parish Area Leaders. Each speaker would have around 15 to 20 minutes plus time for questions. Maybe the 9th or 16th of January. Father also relayed that February 2nd is World day of Consecrated Life, which could also be utilized for a speaker timeframe. Father OK’d the banner to pursue. Father would like to have Father Paul Rutten preach at all of the Sunday Masses one weekend on vocations and between Masses to capitalize on his presence, too. Having Father Rutten also address the youth, Bridget thought a February time might work best.

VI. Twyla asked if we want to meet in December, which is scheduled for the 14th. The FFC agreed to have the meeting because of all the January events planned. Deb Witte asked how our Catholic Schools are involved in Faith Formation. She offered that maybe testimonials could be used to illustrate how this occurs spontaneously. Something more than just the Catholic

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Schools Week focus is needed to raise the awareness of our Catholic schools. Much discussion ensued on this topic including how to promote Catholic schools while not offending those who choose our public alternatives. Father relayed that St. Lambert's is our Parish school and that Catholic education is part of our mission. We are blessed in having such a fine Catholic school system available for our children and youth. **Action:** Twyla will add this topic to Old Business for the December meeting.

VII. Closing Prayer led by Father in saying a Glory Be To The Father.