

ACC Meeting Minutes November 7, 2019 7 PM at St. Mary's Church Basement

**NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY NOVEMBER 21, ST. MARY'S CHURCH BASEMENT 7 PM**

A. Regular Business:

1. Call to order: Bill Kuesel
2. Prayer: Fr. Ben
3. ATTENDANCE: Fr. Ben and Fr. Jimmy J, Fr. Mark Botzet  
St. Stanislaus, Sobieski: Joyce Borash, Michael Retka;  
Holy Family, Belle Prairie: Darrell Welle  
OLOL, Little Falls: Joe LaForce  
Sacred Heart, Flensburg: Jim Carlson  
St. James, Randall: Gail Johnson, Bill Kuesel  
St. Mary's, Little Falls: Brigid Fitzgerald, Jon Radermacher  
MOL School: Mary Sowada  
Absent: Carol Merten, Kaitlin Pohland  
Guests: Brenda Kreske, Diocese; Jeff Winkelmann, Deacon Frank Andres St. James; Julia Stich, St. James ;Mary Jo Backowski, St. James; Rachel Schilling Holy Family.
4. Review of Minutes from October 24th Meeting : Corrections: None M/S/P ( Darrel, Joe) 1 abstention
5. Approval of the agenda: M/S/P ( Joe, Jon)

B. Old Business:

1. Recap of Mass and information night Monday, October 14 given by Fr. Ben: Kaitlin typed up all questions submitted which were then sent to Joe and Deacon Jeff to possibly answer. Concern raised that as we are in a process, to put answers to these questions now is to get ahead of where we are in the process. We have no answers, our job is to prepare a report. We will place a consolidated list of the questions at each parish, along with the minutes of our meetings so parishioners can review them, let our churches know where to find them, we will determine which Issue/Goal each question falls under and the committee will review the questions at the time that Issue /Goal is discussed. Michael R., as Communication liaison, will be sent a copy of the questions.
2. Report from Seminarian Breakfast on November 3, St. James in Randall  
\$6927 raised with additional donations coming in to the parish. 221 served. There will be a final report generated by the St. James parish which can be used next year for planning.
3. Recap of 1st Monday Mass and discussion held November 4  
Fewer people(51) came then to the first forum ; how to get more people there?  
**Suggestions:** 1)place a suggestion box in each parish for items/questions/ideas to give to ACC.  
2) Can we offer child care? Monday night is tough. The time before the report is due is short. Difficult to switch nights or to a Sunday in such a short time. Unsure a day change will get us more people attending. Will keep using same day ( First Monday Mass) for now.  
3) Use School Speak to get info to families.  
4) Send home survey with faith formation students.  
5) Hand out survey at monthly Sunday night youth Mass.  
6) Surveys should include question of what day/time is better for the parishioner.  
7) Include as part of school parent meeting  
8) Survey: question if diocese has a survey we could tweak, can Brenda K check. Fr. Ben, Jon and Kaitlin will be sub committee to develop survey. If ACC members have suggestions to include in survey, BY NOVEMBER 15 send to Kaitlin with cc to Fr. Ben, Jon.:

Survey question should be directed to families unable to attend the forums, what their concerns are and what are their suggestions.

4. ACC Name: Many new suggestions were made, narrowed down to : Haven of Mercy ACC; Haven of Divine Mercy ACC; River of Mercy ACC; Heart(s) of Mercy ACC;  
Nominations are closed. Vote next meeting by show of hands.

C. New Business:

1. Special Guest Brenda Kreske, who works at the Diocese now heading up the ACC process. There are 29 ACC units across the diocese. Indicates we are on track in centering on goals to assist in making our report/plan.  
**Goal for Plan: highlight ideas or action steps for each goal. Then input from parish, then parish has ability to flesh out how to put it into action.**
2. Prioritize goals for upcoming ACC planning meetings: Fr. Ben will send out the list of 5 goals . For Young Families we will use surveys and include all categories: Rel Ed, Youth Ministry and Young Adults. Areas noted of concern and Ideas to discuss/take forward to plan:

**Youth**

Need for full time youth minister for the ACC- serious and intentional  
Mission trip with youth - Guatemala or elsewhere, with followup weekly thereafter to keep momentum. World Youth Day is in Portugal, possibility to get youth involved.  
Boundary Waters trip annually with parishioner involvement.  
Steubenville/Rochester lacks followup.  
TEC program available but underused  
Youth on parish council  
Youth ministers for the Masses  
Space needed for youth events  
Concentrate on fellowship/friendship and then move to faith development.  
Theology of the Body

**Religious Ed.** Now concentrates on empowering parents to practice their faith and form bond with parish, asking parents to prioritize this time with their kids  
Suggestion to consider a family model of Rel Ed rather than student only. Diocese has parishes that do follow this so there will be information to check out.

Class for parents at adult level while kids are in class/prayer time

**Young families:**

PF3 ( meal, formation, adoration and prayer)  
ALPHA - catholic version ( found in Divine Renovation) 10 week series, outreach to non-regular attending parents. Focus on community and faith, aim to draw them back in.  
Theology on Tap- promote  
Survey what families are looking for  
service projects  
Moms of first child group,

- D. Update from Communications liaison: Michael Retka no report, he will email us Mass counts.
- E. Questions from Committee Members : None
- F. Goal for Mond De. 2 Mass and Forum will be decided at our next meeting.
- G. TO DO FOR NEXT MEETING: Mary will get Mass counts for 3 parishes and other three parishes are asked to collect and bring their numbers.
- H. Adjourned 9:24
- I. Prayer: Fr. Ben

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General information: 24 retiring priests in next 10 years and 3-4 seminarians being ordained. Low number planning is being done for 47 priests - there are 70 active priests now. 47 does serve the current parishes - numbers wise. Priests are affected greatly by any schedule and they should have major input in developing a schedule that is based on 2 priests for the ACC.,  
Fr. Ben and Fr. Jimmy will ask ushers to count weekly starting now.

Tri parish: Mary Sowada will ask office staff to write up what their job entails, Jon R will review and note it to us or write up job description. Fr Ben will give list of employees mary.  
Fr. Jimmy to give us job description for those working in his three parishes.