

#### **Goal 4: Faith Formation Committee**

Meeting: September 12, 2009

Attendance: Rebecca Coleman, Carolyn Cox, Deacon Jim Cox, Yvonne Beyers, Dianne Hinds, Susan Rasins, Elizabeth Conrad

Opening prayer

Reviewed topics:

##### Liturgy Translation

Carolyn provided copies of the upcoming changes to the Roman Missal – Thank you!

It will be at least 2 years before the changes are implemented. The USCCB website (<http://www.usccb.org/romanmissal/>, click “more examples” at bottom of page to see changes) is beginning to provide information. As the website is still “under construction,” more information regarding implementation and educating the laity may be added.

Current socially accepted practices versus rules or regulations were also discussed, i.e. women covering heads in church, receiving communion on tongue, etc.

Our continued awareness of upcoming changes will help us ease the transition for parishioners.

##### Catechesis for RE catechists

Good idea in theory, but no interest from catechists for this fall due to limited time and RE now in session. May be able to offer a voluntary training program for next year, but time commitment for catechists will likely still be a problem. Need to coordinate with DRE.

##### Parish Retreat

A single day event at the parish sometime next year is possible. Advised to start simple and wait to offer multi-generational or multiple day retreat until following year. We need to plan something that is flexible with the parish schedule, not specifically linked to a church season or event, so it can be offered at any time during the calendar year.

The parish is already considering sponsoring Dr. Paul Thigpen and/or Fr. Ian Bordenave to speak early next year. We want to plan a retreat that could be offered if they are unable to come or postponed until next fall if the parish calendar is already too full of events in the spring.

Plan mass at beginning/end of day and 3-4 talks with discussions/break-out groups after each.

Will need to raise money for honorarium and mileage if speakers from outside our parish.

Potential speakers: Fr. Sean Knox, Fr. Nicholas Schumm, Deacon Walt Richardson, Deacon Gary McBride, Deacon Dr. Robert Saxer, Deacon Tom Fraites, Judy Mikulec, Jackie O’Neal, Steve and Betty Haughton, Anna Montague, Annette North, YAM participant

Potential themes/topics: Cursillo-like (piety, study, action), Adoration/Eucharist, Sacraments, Marian devotion, Meaning in scripture, Pro-life/Social Justice (i.e. health care, prison ministry, minorities)

At next meeting, all are asked to bring additional ideas for speakers, and plan to determine themes/topics to create outline for day.

## Other Catechesis Ideas

### Video/Film Series

St. Stephen Parish, Pensacola has a “Theology classes” program: Listen to famous Catholic speakers and discuss as well as watch classical and new Catholic films. We like the idea of offering monthly a film or recorded speaker followed by discussion.

Our parish library has many recordings, The House of St. Joseph the Workman has a “library” of materials, and the diocesan library is another resource. Parishioners may also have materials, i.e. Dianne Hinds, Susan Rasins, Anne Strasser.

Everyone is asked to e-mail Elizabeth or bring to the next meeting a list of resources they have to offer. Elizabeth will bring a list from our parish library and will try to obtain a list from the diocesan library as well as contact St. Stephen Parish to find out more about their program.

Discussed offering after 5 pm Saturday mass, and incorporating potluck or snacks/dessert. Also considered asking K of C if it could be coordinated with their pasta dinner, but not sure this is a good idea.

### Monthly Teaching

Plan to organize a once monthly single topic instructional opportunity about our church and faith. Sessions would explain why, how, and the meaning of feasts, symbols, methods of prayer, people of the church, etc. Each session would stand on its own; parishioners may attend any individual program without need to commit to more or attend earlier sessions to participate in later ones.

Program needs a catchy name: Catholicism 101, Catholicism for Dummies, Catholics Do What?!

Topics suggested: Rosary, Devine Mercy Chaplet, Novenas, Ignatian Prayer, Centering Prayer, Saints, Symbols of Christmas/Easter, Tour of Church (Deacon Lou Marini), Corpus Christi, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Quinceañera

Please e-mail Elizabeth or bring to next meeting ideas of name for program, additional topic ideas and thoughts on who will teach/lead each topic.

### Committee Name

The Pastoral Council is concerned that without the modifier “adult” there may be conflict with established youth programs. The Council was advised that the intention is to supplement the youth programs and include the youth rather than exclude them by using the term “adult.”

The Council’s next meeting is in October; hopefully they will either approve the name or suggest an inclusive alternative.

Next meeting: Saturday, October 3, 2009, 9:00 am – 10:30 am

Closing prayer