

Charlotte/Greece/Hilton Parishes Evangelization Team

September 17, 2024

Notes

Present: **Holy Cross/Our Mother of Sorrows:** John Owens, **St. Charles Borromeo:** Rose Marie Lombard, **St. John the Evangelist:** Marianne Katz, Dominick Zarcone, **St. Lawrence:** Karen Bunker, **St. Leo the Great:** Cindy Craner (for Joan Rohr), **Facilitator/link to the Pastoral Planning Task Force:** Karen Rinefield

Excused: **St. Lawrence:** Patricia Urbinelli, **St. Leo the Great:** Joan Rohr, **St. Mark:** Carolyn DelVecchio,

Purpose of this group: to share parish evangelization best practices, to design and implement shared evangelization projects

Target audiences:

1. Members of our parishes—helping them deepen their relationship with God.
2. Members of our parishes—helping them talk to others about their faith without judging or criticizing.
3. Members of our parishes who pulled back during Covid and those no longer participating.

Opening prayer: James 3:16-4:3; intercessory prayers, the Lord's Prayer

Continued work on evangelization priorities/actions for the fall

Develop and publish a list of retreat opportunities beyond the 7 parishes

- **Action:** Rose Marie will draft an informational document: e.g., why someone would want to go on a retreat, description of different kinds of retreats, how a retreat differs from an educational conference.
- Karen B. has already gathered information about Cursillo and the dates for spring retreats.
- For other retreats offered beyond our parishes, we need an introduction, the address, and a link to its website. **Action:** the following said that they would do this for the retreat centers:
 - Mercy Spirituality Center and Notre Dame Retreat House: Marianne
 - Mt. Irenaeus: John
 - Mt. Savior: Rose Marie
 - Abbey of the Genesee: Cindy
- **Action:** Each member will check at his or her parish to get the name and contact information for the parishioner who coordinates men's or women's parish retreats at Notre Dame.
- We want to publish all of this no later than early 2025.

Answer "where did you find God today" through faith sharing at parish committee meetings

- This has been piloted at a recent St. John's liturgy committee meeting and at the facilitator training for The 99 at St. Mark's.
- Rose Marie will try to incorporate this faith sharing question at St. Charles' bible study.
- **Action:** Dominick will draft an information sheet explaining why this kind of faith sharing is valuable.
- We re-visited ways that parishes could encourage this faith sharing among parishioners at large:
 - Projecting the question at the beginning of Masses (unfortunately St. Leo's is the only one of our parishes which currently has this capability).
 - Including the question (and later individual responses) in bulletins.
 - Invite parishioners to add their responses to a large wall poster.
- It would be great to share this question at our two schools and in faith formation and have children/teens respond.

Communication of our evangelization efforts

- Our greatest challenge is getting the word out to parishioners about the work we have done and the opportunities that are available. We hope that the Task Force, once a recommendation has gone to the bishop, will include communication among its future tasks of collaboration on behalf of the Church's mission in our area. However, we cannot wait for that.
- It is important to drive as many people as possible to the Roc Catholics Northwest website.
- It would be a great help if the priest at Masses could briefly mention items like the Digital Library. A pulpit announcement would be another way, but we realize that announcements can already be too long.
- Karen R. said that she would like to identify one or more people to create content/images for parish social media—e.g. about the Digital Library or the fall Bible Studies. Unfortunately, one person she has worked with just left her parish position and another is doing much of the shared website work. She said that she would pass some examples to committee members of what this content looks like.

Closing prayer: Hail Mary

Future meetings

- Thursday, October 10 at 6:30 pm, room #3 in Deacon Hall at St. Lawrence
- Thursday, November 14 at 6:30 pm, room #3 in Deacon Hall at St. Lawrence