

**St. Andrew Stewardship Commission
Minutes
Meeting of Tuesday, February 9, 2010**

The February gathering of the Commissions opened at 7:30 p.m. on this very snowy evening with prayer, announcements, fellowship and discussion of Chapter Four of Pope Benedict, XVI's Encyclical, Caritas in Veritate.

Present:

Sylvia Bartalucci	sbartalucc@aol.com
Sarah Elliott	lasada@juno.com / ste1@chrysler.com
Deacon Marc Gemellaro	deaconmarc@standrewchurch.org
Shirley Gofrank	shirleyg@gofrankmattina.com
Michael Kasmicki	MichaelJK2@yahoo.com
Gerry Kraft	gerrykraft@msn.com
Tom LaCross	tlacross@hrc-engr.com
Jim Rousseau	JRRockinR@aol.com
Ed Ryder	eryder@ddp-law.com
Fr. Tom Slowinski	dfs@standrewchurch.org

Other Members:

Pat Anderson	thecityhouse@comcast.net
Mark Baker	markb@standrewchurch.org
Scott Doyle	msuisone@comcast.net
Art Haman	hamana@udmercy.edu

1. **January 12, 2010 Minutes.** January meeting minutes were approved as written.
2. **Business Report.**
 - a. For the seven months ending Jan. 31, 2010, the Percentage of Budget YTD = 102.74%. (December and Christmas collections were a little higher than previous months'.)
 - b. Archdiocese of Detroit parish assessment will increase from 6 to 7 percent beginning with next fiscal year (July 2010).
 - c. Mark Baker expects to return in early March.
3. **Parish Assembly.** The Stewardship Commission's date is Saturday, October 2, 2010. Sylvia reported that the Commissions were in agreement with their submissions. *Assignment – determine how you would like to help with the Assembly.*
4. **Parish 100th Anniversary in 2012.** Fr. Tom reported that the parish is considering a series of four to six events that would be comprehensive by way of age group, interests, spiritual and social focus, etc. The parish staff is working on the celebration. Fr. Tom won't form a committee until after the Assembly. Tom LaCross said the City of Rochester Hills has a parish history of St. Andrew on the web site. Fr. Tom mentioned that a parishioner has offered to write a parish history.
5. **CPR Training.** Three hour training session will be held this Saturday, February 13 for interested persons.
6. **Other Business.**
 - a. Celebration of Vocations Mass is scheduled for Tuesday, May 18, 2010 at St. Andrew.

There being no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

The next Stewardship Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 9, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Elliott
Stewardship Commission Member

+

February 9, 2010

Present: Juanita Mallmann, Victor Neeley, Kay Dodson, Janet Iamarino, Joan Faoro, Leah Smarsch, Sister Rebecca Hodge, Fr. Thomas Slowinski

Opening Prayer: Education Commission

Education: Chapter Four

Planning: Discussion relative to Friday AM Mass. Fr. Tom suggested a 6:15 Mass on first Friday followed by Exposition and closing with Evening Prayer. Other than the school Mass no Friday AM Mass. After considerable discussion, Mass will continue through Friday, May 7 allowing time for further consideration and discussion.

Also there will be no AM Mass on weekdays when Rochester Schools are cancelled. This will be announced and AM Masses and in bulletin, website and weekly email.

Training for absence of priest will be offered to Mass co-ordinators and leaders of prayer.

Reports: Parish Assembly – there will be a meeting Tuesday, February 16, at 3 PM in the parish office to work on our presentation.

Summary/Review from January meeting – no questions or comments.

Review of Objectives: Video training for ministries is a work in progress.

Quiet Prayer: Discussion of attendance still very low. Will evaluate at May meeting.

Centering Prayer Training: Scheduled to begin April 10, 17, 24, etc.

Education Commission Minutes
February 9, 2010

Members Present: Tina Howell, Lisa Juriga, Gregg Christensen, Michelle Szczepanski, Kathleen Metz and Jim Conlen

The Education Commission began by leading the other commissions in prayer. Prayer was followed by formation discussion.

Commission discussion began with Kathleen Metz giving the Vocations report. Kathleen has been working diligently on pulling together a Vicariate Vocations Mass. Father Tom has been consulted and will concelebrate with Fr. Tom Birney, Vocations Director, on May 18. This is a Tuesday. The time will be determined soon. Commission members advised that they believed setting the mass time at 7:30 pm would allow for participants to spend more time at a Vocations Fair afterwards.

The Vocations Fair will consist of displays set up and staffed by representatives of a number of religious orders. All four life vocations will be highlighted (single life, married life, consecrated religious and ordained). Ideally, the fair will also showcase information for adults and children who might be more interested in spiritual opportunities such as Third Order communities.

Kathleen will need help in producing a videotape before the event. She also needs people to provide hospitality at the Vocation Fair.

Discussion shifted to the Assembly. Tina reviewed the major discussion points of the Assembly planning committee meeting. She shared an e-mail from Rick Fournier paying specific attention to the responsibilities of the Commission members on the day of our Focus Group. We will be there to monitor, help keep the program on time and help clarify issues for the facilitator.

We will also need to select a Commission member to present the portion of the powerpoint presentation that precedes the facilitator portion. No decision was made on this appointment at this meeting. It was decided that we would add some visual appeal to the presentation by including pictures to represent some of the activities of our ministry. Michelle will compile a list of contact people for the various events and activities and send it out to all Commission members. We will assist in soliciting pictures to be compiled by April with May set as the deadline for final approval of the presentation. Finally, the focus questions were reviewed and re-worded as necessary to ensure that they will stimulate discussion.

Michelle Szczepanski reported that there are 220 children in the First Eucharist class. Of those 220 families, 200 came to the first meeting. There are 270 Confirmation candidates. 200 were in attendance at the first meeting. The Religious Education team has been conducting a Middle School survey. The purpose of the survey is to determine if a change in class times is preferred by a clear majority of families. Early returns are running at about an even split.

Commission members were once again encouraged to attend the PAV Assembly on March 11. Michelle and Lisa highly endorsed the speaker, Father Timothy Radcliffe. This is a joint Vicariate gathering so everyone was encouraged to RSVP in advance to facilitate planning. The assembly will be hosted by St. Paul Albanian Church.

Jim Conlen concluded the meeting at 8:50 with a thank you to everyone for providing food for the hospitality table.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Juriga
Parish Life Commission Minutes:

Meeting Date: 2/09/10

Attendance: Dick Koerber, Betsy Koerber, Pat Metz, Rick Fournier, Evan Reynolds, Kathy Shultz

Not Present: Carol Sullivan, Judy Cote, Mary Grace, Marie Jakubiak, Kit Wojcik, Barbara Mihalic, Betty Dobies, Pam Davis

BEREAVED MINISTRY – Betsy Koerber

A meeting of the Bereavement Ministry was held January 16th and the attendance was excellent. Discussion was held regarding Alan Wolfert's book, *Companioning the Bereaved*. This discussion was both a sharing and a training experience and the participation was inspiring. Two new potential members joined the group.

The St. Andrew community has experienced a great number of funerals in the last two months and all families have been contacted and Bereavement Ministers have been assigned.

We are very fortunate that Dr. Marilyn Gilbert has volunteered to conduct a training and review session for our members at our meeting to be held on March 13th. We are very grateful for Dr. Gilbert's expertise and her interest in the St. Andrew Bereavement Ministry.

Betsy has been approached by a member of the parish about beginning an outreach program for bereavement support for youth. This person has created this type of program before and it has been very successful. It was suggested that Betsy contact both Michelle S. (Education) and Dave (Youth Ministry) to see if there is any interest in this type of program.

ELDERLY/HOMEBOUND – Mary Grace

I have interviewed two new Ministers for the Elderly/Homebound program. I have assigned one to co-partner at Sanctuary of Bellbrook with another Minister and the other Minister is filling in for someone on vacation. The total of active Ministers is 28. There are 24 Partners being visited and I have a new Partner not assigned at this time. Three Ministers have left the program because of other commitments. One Partner passed away last month and one moved into Hospice. I have given Pat Metz an updated list of Partners and Ministers

SOCIAL – chair vacant

MENTORING – Betty Dobies – (Ed Kainz, Sue Siwek, Nicole - Assistant Chairs)

January 14, 2010

“The Recruiter’s Hiring Secrets”

Presented by Kelly Smith, National Business Consultant, Author, and Comedienne.

January 28, 2010

“Soft Skills for Hard Times”

Presented by Barry Demp, Master Certified Coach, International Coach Federation

February 11, 2010

“Federal Government Jobs”

Presented by Marianne Kainz, C.P.I., University Program Manager, Leadership Competencies Manager, TACOM Learning Center

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

We have 11 Volunteers who have agreed to facilitate some of our meetings: Rick Fournier, Virginia Biegun, Mike Ross, Jennifer Landers, Mike Foyteck, Laura Anger, Dave Braun, Barbara Erk and Marianne Kainz. Our established Volunteers who currently facilitate meetings include Ed Kainz, Nicole Palomba and me.

We are sad to report (but we understand) that Sue Siwek, Assistant Chair, has made the decision to take a break from serving our Ministry. Because of the many demands on her time both professionally and personally, she will take a break. We will miss her smiling face and her great willingness to always help those in need. As a thank you we delivered a card from our Ministry along with an angel statue.

WELCOMING – Evan Reynolds

The next Newcomer Registration will be on February 14th following the 10:45 Mass.

MOMS WITH YOUNG CHILDREN – chair vacant

PARISH COUNCIL - Kathy Shultz

January 26th meeting. Began with a discussion of the third chapter of *Caritas in Veritate*.

Commission reports:

Christian Service:

Blood Drive will be on Monday, Feb. 15th from 1:00 PM to 8:00PM in the A/B. There will be opportunities to write letters to the military during the blood drive.

Care and Share collection of February 7th will focus on items needed for the Hope Warming Center in Pontiac.

Lenten Soup Supper will be held on Friday, February 19th at 6:00PM in the Activities Bldg with a speaker scheduled for 7:00PM.

Education:

The commission has been brainstorming to come up with ideas to increase the effectiveness of Religious Education and Formation of both Religious Ed. students and adults in the parish community. One suggestion was a survey of parents of Religious Ed. students on how to better involve parents in their children’s faith formation.

Worship:

The Parish Mission will be held in March. There was a presentation made on the possibility of establishing a Centering Prayer group at St. Andrew Church. The commission also is looking at the possibility of offering Evening Prayer during Lent. There is still no decision on whether the Friday morning Mass will be eliminated, the commission continues to discuss the possibility with Fr. Tom.

Stewardship:

The December budget was at 105% of projected budget due in part to the Christmas Collection. Staff has held the line on expenses.

Staff:

Fr. Tom reported that Mark Baker is going to be out on disability until approximately March 1st. The Parish 100th Anniversary is in 2012 and Fr. Suggested that one aspect of the celebration could be a pilgrimage to Italy or the Holy Land. Fr. Wants interested commission members to begin thinking of possible events or commemorations for this special anniversary.

Beginning in January, Fr. Tom will be teaching two classes at the Seminary on Wednesdays.

A Lifesaving course will be offered at St. Andrew on February 13th to give refresher courses in CPR, use of defibrillator and basic first aid and emergency responses.

Chairman:

Rick has met with Fr. Tom regarding possible facilitators for the 2010 Parish Assembly. So far no one has been approached although there are a couple of names being mentioned as possibilities.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS – Rick Fournier

Our first fish fry will be on Friday, February 19th at the Community House. There will be a total of 7 Friday fish fries with the last one on Good Friday. Once again we will conduct a raffle to raise monies to help support our charitable works, with the first prize of \$1000.00 - drawing held on Good Friday.

We need help from as many Brother Knights, their spouses and even their children as we can get. There are so many jobs to be done - these are labor intensive events. We always need help on cleanup after the meal if you are not able to help with preparation, cooking or serving. The Daughters of Isabella will support the effort this year and hope to do some recruiting.

VICARIATE - Kit Wojcik –

The VPC meeting was held on 2/2/2010 at St Mary of the Hills. Minutes of each meeting of the Pontiac Area Vicariate Pastoral Council are now sent to the St. Andrew parish council. This is now possible because the vicariate now generally meets the first Tuesday of each month which is usually three weeks before our parish council meets. Please refer to the parish council report for information about these meetings.

The North Macomb and Pontiac Area vicariates are jointly sponsoring an assembly on March 11, 2010 at St. Paul Albanian Church in Rochester Hills from 6 pm to 9:15 pm. The event includes a light supper and is free. The featured speaker is Fr. Timothy Radcliffe. All parishioners are welcome to attend. You need to register in order to attend. Please use the registration information on the flyer I sent last week. The registration info is also on the St. Andrew website.

DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA – Marie Jakubiak

Thurs. February 4, 2010 we had our meeting and discussed the results of our Advent by Candlelight. Some suggestions were made re: making sure we have extra lights for the extra tables.

Additionally, if we only have a table of 4 or 5 squeezing those ladies into an existing table where they had a seat or two. We are learning

Secondly, we discussed the Friday Fish Fry and assisting the KofC. We sent around a sign-up sheet and had good response. We will coordinate what is needed at each Fish Fry as assist as needed. We will also look to make our organization known and have membership information available.

We discussed our annual calendar. Once again we will have either Bordines or Viviano's for May.

Last year we had a planter-garden demonstration from Bordines. Suggestion was to look at a flower arranging class for an alternate. Anne Morrison will set that up.

We are looking at April 8th meeting to have a Hormones and your Health seminar by some local Chiropractors. It would be a great event to start promoting early in the parish bulletin. It also coincides with the Intl designation of April as a Membership Blitz month. We need to increase our membership.

Barbara Mihalic took some membership information and was going to pass it along to the 55+ group.

We discussed a summer picnic/potluck for our group....possible in the park on Inglewood/Parkdale. It is still early and we will further formulate that idea.

Lastly, we are looking at how to possibly have a meeting at St. Mary's, St. Iraneus and St. John Fisher to increase our membership. We are struggling to find what we think will be acceptable fund-raising ideas. Maybe we could have some additional help and make a multi-church event that would allow us to raise funds like the KofC does with their Fish Fry.

Old Business: Plans for the St. Patrick Day dance are progressing.

The Parish Nurses used the Chapel for blood pressure screenings on February 7th and there were twice the number of people screened as in January. The Chapel seems to be more 'user friendly' for folks taking advantage of this service. (warmer too)

Pat Metz mentioned the Graduation Breakfast which is traditionally held after a Mass honoring all parish graduates and said that possible changes to the type of breakfast and the number of guests allowed for each graduate were being considered. There is a small budget for this however we need to explore possible ways to contain costs. A suggestion for a continental style breakfast or reception format was discussed.

New Business: The Parish Life web site was reviewed and some changes were suggested by Dick Koerber. First suggestion was to provide links to some of the ministries not already set up for that function, Knights of Columbus, Daughters of Isabella and the Parish Nurses. Secondly, Dick will provide updated commentary and listing of current activities to the PLC web page.

There was some question as to whether or not the K of C has been relocated to the Parish Life Commission from the Worship Commission, Rick will look into the matter and let Dick know.

On May 18th there will be a special Mass for Vocations here at St. Andrew and a gathering/reception/Vocation Fair in the Activities Bldg. following the Mass.

Submitted by:

Kathy Shultz
Parish Life Commission

Minutes of Christian Service Meeting on February 9, 2010

Members present: Paula Bedsole, Kathy Diewald, John Dodson, Alyson Denyer, Lynn Desilets, Val Fournier, Ceil Mrock, Joe Soncrant.

PRAYER & REFLECTION:

We will share with you the reflection of Cecilia Roccas, one of our members who was not present at the meeting: She commented that all living matter, whether human or nature, is our obligation to be cared for. It encompasses the universe. We are all under the Father, who cares for us and loves us unconditionally, and we are asked to do the same.

REPORTS:

- A. Tithing Report—there was no report available at the time of the meeting.
- B. Parish Council: Kathy Diewald reported that Parish Life has 12 new members, and a total of 30 members on their Bereavement Committee. Mentoring for the unemployed is still in great demand and ongoing and successful. The Daughters of Isabella will be helping at the K of C fish fries at the Rochester Community House on Friday evening during Lent. The minutes of all meetings will now be posted on the St. Andrew website. Stewardship reported financial contributions up 16% over last year at Christmas. Worship Commission is talking about offering Centering Prayer, more info to follow. They also discussed what to do if no priest shows up for weekend mass, mainly on Sunday evening.
- Fr. Tom advised there will be no meetings during the Lenten Mission.
- Life-saving training is still under discussion.
- Fr. Tom is looking into a travel agent to arrange pilgrimages to the Holy Land in 2011 and Italy in 2012 to celebrate our 100 yr. anniversary. He welcomes other ideas such as a dance, picnic, etc. to celebrate. It was suggested that we sponsor building a house for Habitat for Humanity in the St. Andrew name.

COORDINATOR:

- A. Joe talked about his 2009 Review of Christian Service Outreach efforts outlined in the January church bulletin. He also stated that out of 4700 families in the parish, 60% of children don't come to mass; this has not changed over the years. It will be under discussion.
- B. Joe is hosting the Catholic Bookstore this coming weekend.
- C. He talked about achieving our objectives as a commission.

COMMISSION CHAIR:

- A. Val Fournier stated that Mary Coyle has agreed to be our website rep to proof read news, minutes, etc.
- B. John Dodson stated the Justice and Peace committee has been meeting for a year now. There is discussion to bring in a speaker to make them more visible to the parish.

- C. Care & Share was a big success and Joe reported taking 75 bags of needed items to the Hope Warming Center in Pontiac. Parish response was wonderful.
- D. Ceil Mrock reported that the schedule for the Blood Drive is on track. Paula, Ceil M. and Alyson are making chili for the donors. Ceil will bring crackers, Joe the cookies. The hours are from 12:00 noon to 8:00 p.m.
- E. The idea of sponsoring a "Pajama-rama" for p.j. bottoms for the vets at the Veterans Hospital was discussed for a future Care & Share.
- F. The Lenten Soup-Supper on Feb. 19th is organized—set up will start at 5:00 p.m. Peter Doherty will talk about being fully human/ a whole person.

NEW BUSINESS:

John Dodson showed a draft of the power-point presentation for the Parish Assembly in Fall, 2010. Our commission theme "We will show our faith by our works" from St. James worked in beautifully with the photos and bullet-points. John did a wonderful job of developing the power-point program.

Next meeting date: March 9, 2010

Submitted by Alyson Denyer