

Attendees: Pat Alberto, Moira Bailey, Kerry Dineen, Andrew Hauser, Kathleen Griffin-Kluger, Sandy Maskell, Shu-Fy Pongnon, Szyman Radziszewicz, Sr. Valeria B., Andrew Schilling

## **Welcome | Opening Prayer**

### **Old Business**

#### I. Hospitality Sundays: First Sunday of every month

##### Review April 6 Hospitality Sunday

- One parent whose child attended the winter invitation for teens to gather would like to help
- A parishioner asked if we could try to not use styrofoam (plates, cups) and asked if the Parish had a Green Committee
- Suggest having name tags for parishioners coming down to Hospitality Sunday; copies of the bulletin on the tables
- Liked using the rectangular tables vs. round tables – easier to talk to people

### **Action Steps**

- Sandy Maskell will follow-up with Council members for volunteers for the Sunday morning masses May 4.
  - 8:30am Mass:
  - 10:00am Mass:
  - 11:30am Mass:
  - Anchors: Charlie, Kathleen, Sandy

#### II. Deanery Meeting

Kathleen and Gillian attended the Parish Cluster Deanery meeting in March. This is an opportunity for parishes to share what's working for them. The key areas that were covered were:

- Evangelization: good signage outside the church; making sure people are smiling when leaving church.
- Social justice: people liked hearing about our unemployment outreach Mass
- Youth ministries
- Ministry to the LGBT community

Kathleen shared some flyers about programs she thought might be interesting. Next step is for pastors to meet. We discussed how to let parishioners know about the other parishes' programs.

III. Spirituality Survey

10 PPC members took the spirituality survey and were given a copy of the findings (results to be reviewed more deeply at future meeting). We discussed whether to extend the survey to the entire Parish in terms of what data it might provide back to the Council around the spiritual needs of our Parish members.

Discussion

- If we use the Survey Parish-wide, do we want to use the opportunity to collect some much needed demographic data?
- How can we engage participate by as many Parishioners as possible?
  - Make the survey available during our next Hospitality Sunday and at the Wine & Cheese at the Sunday 5pm Mass (paper and electronic)
  - Post a link to the Survey on our Facebook page
  - Email an invitation to parishioners to participate
  - Make available at Mass and provide quiet time in the pews to complete

**New Business**

IV. Book Discussion

Rebuilt: awakening the faithful, reaching the lost, and making church matter, by Michael White and Tom Corcoran

Tools for rebuilding: 75 Really, Really Practical Ways to Make Your Parish Better

The Council members shared some of the themes in the books that resonated with us – and that we might apply at St. Saviour, including:

- Pay attention to the people who aren't there – why aren't they there?
- Be the leaders who learn, opening up the gene pool
- Creating disciples – helping to transform people and create active disciples
- Evangelize
- Focus not on numbers but on the people who are there and how you can engage them
- Find your message and stick with it: the need for practical, accessible tips to accessing spirituality (i.e. Father Murphy's mini-retreat on prayer).
- Create opportunities to learn what it means to do some of the things we do in church: shift from "have to" to "want to".
- Confirmation should be initiation, not graduation
- The idea of fostering small groups to learn and develop together

The importance of music/music ministry drew much discussion, including the music that is sung and how it's chosen; whether people are singing or just listening; music at different masses (children's ministry, gospel choirs); use of soloists; and the difficulty parishioners have singing some of the music.

Some mentioned other parishes where the music felt more “spiritual” and the congregation participated much more. When the church sings – everyone sings.

We discussed what more we can do at Hospitality Sunday to further engage the parishioners who attend, perhaps by offering information about ministries.

Finally, we discussed the book’s advice / message about tithing. There is concern that there may be “fundraising fatigue” in the Parish. The Council discussed the Annual Catholic Appeal video: some people thought it prompts parishioners to say they’ll either support the parish or the appeal – not realizing the important connections.

In closing, Sandy summed up themes from the various discussions and points people raised:

- Knowledge is understanding and we can use that knowledge to engage and connect people more deeply and in a meaningful way. A survey is one way to get comments on what is working and what is needed by our Parish members.
- When it comes to Parish activities, perhaps a litmus testis needed to ask ourselves if the activity is building community : at some point, we may have to say “no”
- The need for deeper engagement through small groups and bringing people together. On Hospitality Sunday, finding opportunities to engage at a deeper level. We’ve got to be relevant to meet our parish needs.

V. Other Discussion

Six members of the Pastoral Council have terms ending in June: Sandy, Pat, Kathleen, Gillian, Charlie, and Cindi.

VI. Wrap-Up: Closing Prayer

**REMINDER**

PPC meetings are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month

May 13: Continue discussion of book; Spirituality Survey follow-up