

# ST. DOMINIC'S LEADERSHIP REPORT



Every month the Leadership Commissions meet to discuss their progress on **four major parish initiatives for 2010: welcoming; sharing our stories, broadening adult faith formation, and encouraging contemplative prayer.** This report highlights the efforts specific to these goals at the late August meeting. The next Leadership

Night is **October 4, 2010.**

## WELCOMING

**THE ADMINISTRATION COMMISSION** was delighted to report on the completion of the logo/brochure/style guide effort to provide a cohesive presentation of the many services and programs offered at St. Dominic's.

And they were equally delighted to report that a highly capable and experienced parishioner has volunteered to lead our effort to redesign the parish website.

**THE OUTREACH COMMISSION** encourages parishioners to the following:

**Speed Mingling Party**, Thursday, September 23, 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. Come one, come all, if you haven't yet experienced getting to know your fellow parishioners.

More **Ushers and Greeters** are needed for all Masses. Interested persons can contact Jimmy Salcido at [athirdhand@yahoo.com](mailto:athirdhand@yahoo.com)

From **THE COMMUNITY LIFE COMMISSION**, a recap events from last month and also what's ahead.

On Sunday August 22<sup>nd</sup> "**Café Minuto**" or hospitality was held after the 11:30 a.m. Mass, over 60 parishioners participated in this event and were treated to coffee and goodies complements of other parishioners. We want to thank the many volunteers that participated in and supported this community building activity.

Sunday, August 8<sup>th</sup> was the final meeting for the "**Strength Finders**" series of workshops. Over 30 participants representing a cross section of the parish community discovered their talents and learned how to

grow them into strengths. The next series will be held shortly, specifically for members of the Young Adults Group.

Saturday, August 21<sup>st</sup> was the annual **Medieval Meal.** This sold-out event brought a diverse group of our parish community together to partake in food, entertainment and socializing in a wonderful setting. We want to thank the many volunteers that participated in this community building event.

The next **Newcomer Orientation** will be held the weekend of September 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, after all parish Masses. The congregation is encouraged to attend and register to be either a parishioner or associate member of the parish.

## SHARING OUR STORIES

**THE OUTREACH COMMISSION** also reported that members of the **Social Justice** committee distributed box dinners to the homeless with Fr. River at Hemlock Alley last Thursday. They found this a rewarding act of charity.

## BROADENING ADULT FAITH FORMATION

**THE OUTREACH COMMISSION** reported that Father Xavier gave a talk on Catholic Social Teachings at the last Social Justice meeting with about 50 people attending.

**THE FORMATION COMMISSION** had a number of exciting things to report:

Guest: We welcomed Mr. Jeff Grace who was visiting our group for the first time to learn more about the Formation Commission as well as other commissions.

Lifelong Formation at St. Dominic's: St. Dominic's will introduce the lifelong formation framework, **Our Journey of Faith**, at Masses this weekend. Brochures, which include a schedule of activities and invite parishioners to take the next step on their journey of faith, will be available throughout the Parish. A question and answer session is planned for September 19<sup>th</sup> and Commitment Sunday will be September 26<sup>th</sup>.

**RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults** begins Tuesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish hall.

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Family and Children's Faith Formation: Registrations are trickling in. Classes begin September 19<sup>th</sup>, on **Catechetical Sunday**. We need two more volunteers to help as assistants on Sunday mornings.

There was a great Pancake Breakfast last Sunday, August 29<sup>th</sup> and we are planning a **Family Service Day in the Presidio**, followed by a BBQ, next Saturday, September 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Youth Ministry:** The first session is Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. We have a great team of young adult leaders. Now, we need to find the teenagers!

Landings: Landings is having an orientation session for new newcomers on Saturday, September 18<sup>th</sup> and for all newcomers on September 25<sup>th</sup>. The next Landings 10-week sessions begin: Monday evenings, September 27<sup>th</sup> through December 6<sup>th</sup> and on Tuesday evenings, September 28<sup>th</sup> through December 7<sup>th</sup>.

## ENCOURAGING CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER

**THE SPIRITUAL & LITURGICAL LIFE COMMISSION** will soon begin planning in earnest for a directed silent retreat for parishioners. This retreat will be held off-site, ideally over a weekend at a nearby retreat center, so that we can create the kind of time and space a person needs to "get away" for a while - to rest, reflect, and renew in the presence of a prayerful community.

## OTHER NOTEWORTHY DEVELOPMENTS

**PASTORAL COUNCIL.** On the agenda at the next session is to select the upcoming year's co-chairs and identify a replacement schedule that prevents losing both co-chairs at one time.

Formation Commission council members provided the schedule for the **Seeker-Disciple-Apostle** roll-out: a month long effort in September with speakers at Masses, brochures with a response tear-off; Question & Answer the weekend of 9/16; Commitment Sunday on 9/26, where upon parishioners will be invited to make a commitment to their own faith development.

**Contemplative Practices:** a Spiritual & Liturgical Life Commission council member reported on the early-stage planning for a silent retreat and received venue recommendations.

The Community Life council members reported on the highly successful (80 person) Speed Mingling session that brought in parishioners and non-parishioners. They are looking forward to the next Speed Mingling session later on this month.

Fr. Xavier led us in discussion with two questions:

- How do we reach out to distant Catholics?
- How do we reach out to men?

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

Fr. Xavier would like to thank all the parishioners who volunteer their time each month to be a part of the Leadership Night meetings.

This is a true example of giving back to the community and being active, participating and contributing members of St. Dominic's Catholic Church and Community.

Our pastor would like to invite, encourage and even challenge parishioners and associate parishioners to become involved in the various ministries and programs available. St. Dominic's is a busy church, a thriving community and still a place of worship.

To take the next step is very easy – a call, an email, a personal visit to the office. The hard part is taking some time out of your busy schedule to reflect, pray and challenge yourself to become another active, participating and contributing member.

Fr. Xavier and the parish staff also wish to thank all the volunteers who do so much for St. Dominic's – the various gardeners, hospitality ministers after the Masses, those in liturgical ministry – Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Mass Coordinators, music ministers, ushers and greeters, the ladies who wash and iron the purificators each week, volunteer receptionists, religious education teachers and assistants, the Lima Center volunteers, sandwich program crew...just to name a few.

Make St. Dominic's not only your spiritual home but a place where your actions help to spread the good news and live the Gospel!