

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 June meeting. The next Leadership Night is January 10, 2011.

WELCOMING

The Outreach Commission reported that Deanna Castro created a newsletter reporting the data from the **Annual Usher/Greeter Meeting** held last month. A copy will be mailed to those on the current list. **Volunteers are needed** for all the Masses, so if you can help, please contact Jimmy Salcido at athirdhand@yahoo.com or (415) 753-1272. You may also get details from an usher at Mass. The **Thanksgiving Collection** yielded \$4,200 for Community Services. Sister Anne and the community are extremely grateful.

The Community Life Commission needs **volunteers** to help with the **Parish Advent Party on Thursday, December 16.** We are looking for volunteers to help set up, decorate, serve food, welcome guests, and clean up. If you would like to help with the event, please contact lorraine_guzman@hotmail.com or (415) 350-6154. Please plan to attend the party from **6:00-9:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.** We encourage you to bring **1 unwrapped gift** for our Giving Tree. We also invite you to bring your own favorite **Christmas goodies** to share with the community. Drop off your goodies in the Parish Hall on the day of the party **Dec. 16 after 3:00 p.m.**

BROADENING ADULT FAITH FORMATION

The Formation Commission continues to plan and implement the programming for Our Journey of Faith. We are very thankful to have two new volunteers to help record, edit and post the homily podcasts that are available on the Parish website. The Commission will present a 20-minute talk at the leadership meeting on February 7, 2011. The talk will focus on the meaning and purpose of our Parish Covenant. The Commission reports the following from the lifelong formation ministries at St. Dominic's: **Our Journey of Faith:** The Holy Choices Discernment Retreat on Dec. 4 was well attended and well received. The Twilight Reconciliation Retreat: *Emmanuel, God Is With Us* will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2010, and the Morning of Reflection: *The Magi -- On Journey and Gift* will be held on Saturday, Jan. 8, 2011. **Family and Children's Faith Formation:** The Parish Hall was filled for our annual Advent Family Gathering, which included a talk by Father Xavier on the love languages between spouses. The event included a children's presentation to the parents about the

meaning of the Advent Wreath and the O Antiphons. On Tuesday, Dec. 7, twelve children made their first Confession at the Family Reconciliation Service. Michael Smith and three catechists attended the recent Faith Formation Conference in Santa Clara to continue to develop their Catholic faith and skills in ministry. **Children's Liturgy of the Word:** John the Baptist took a break from his busy Advent schedule and made an appearance at last Sunday's Children's Liturgy of the Word. He ate locusts from his hair and took a bath in the River Jordan. **Youth Ministry:** Our Youth group helped Sister Anne's parish volunteers with the preparation of 300 Thanksgiving food bags. **Landings:** The two Autumn Landings groups ended this week and held a joint Morning of Reflection on Sat., Dec. 11, with Fr. Garry leading the meditation. The Winter session, scheduled for Feb. 7 through April 12, 2011, will have two groups, one meeting on Mondays and one on Tuesdays. **RCIA:** Fourteen people received the Rite of Acceptance at Masses on last Sunday, Dec. 5.

ENCOURAGING CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER

The **Spiritual & Liturgical Life Commission** is firming up the details for a **directed silent retreat** for parishioners from June 3-5. The retreat master and site have been selected. The retreat master and site have been selected. The retreat master is well-known and respected. The site is a convenient site which has hosted retreats for many years. Official announcements with details will be distributed after the start of the New Year. If there is an overwhelming response, precedence will be given to registered St. Dominic's parishioners. This offsite weekend retreat will create the time and space a person needs to "get away" for awhile, to rest, reflect, and renew in the presence of a prayerful community.

SHARING OUR STORIES

From the **Outreach Commission** the **Death Penalty Seminar** was well attended on Nov. 17. The stories shared by the speakers were both powerful and inspiring. Patti O'Brien assisted serving the **Thanksgiving luncheon** for guests of the Lima Center. She was deeply moved by the appreciation expressed by the guests.

OTHER NOTEWORTHY DEVELOPMENTS

- The Administration Commission discussed how website content ideas will get conveyed to the website project manager. The leadership commission website representatives will meet on January 24 with Ina, the website project manager. After this meeting the general parish members will have an opportunity to choose their preferences for content as well as provide ideas.
- A job description is being developed for the Chair/Co-Chair position of the revitalized Communications Committee. The position ad will be released in the

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upcoming weeks. Interviews are planned for mid- to late January.

- Eveline Kartawidjay will become the co-chair of the Outreach Leadership Commission in January, 2011, and Patti O'Brien will serve as the Outreach Commission member on the Parish Council.
- Jimmy Salcido will work with Michael Rossi on installing child-proof barriers to the construction areas of the church
- The Pastoral Council endorsed the "Sharing Your Strengths" ministry to broaden the reach of this popular program and the "Community Life Ministry for Catholic Adults" through a "soft-launch" by a core of energetic parishioners to start to build a faith-based community of those in their mid 30s and 40s — single, married and with children — for a variety of social, spiritual and service opportunities.
- Lance Johnson and Elizabeth Warner reported on a formation plan for the leadership group. 20 minutes of the Feb., May, Aug. and Nov. meetings will be dedication to a formation topic. First topic will be our "parish covenant."
- Jimmy Salcido chaired his last PC meeting and received warm gratitude for his service to the group; he will remain on his commission.