



ST. DOMINIC'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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 February meeting. The next Leadership Night is March 7, 2011.

WELCOMING

The Outreach Commission reports that *A Guide for Ushers and Greeters* is available in the Parish Office for \$6. A few copies can be signed out on loan for a week at a time. Contact Jimmy Salcido at (415) 753-1272, or by email athirdhand@Yahoo.com if you would like to join this ministry.

The Administration Commission reported that Ina Acuna, volunteer leader of the **parish website redesign effort**, has completed gathering a “wish list” from parish staff and lay leadership. The comprehensive list – of some 190 items on all – will be prioritized by the commission representatives and augmented by an informal survey to parishioners who have provided their email addresses to the office.

BROADENING ADULT FAITH FORMATION

The Formation Commission reports that Lance Johnson presented the first in a series of formation talks, focused on the meaning of *Covenant*, the meaning of the **St. Dominic's Parish Covenant** and how it shapes the work of the various commissions. The Formation Commission discussed the next steps for **Dinner with the Saints**, a new joint effort with the Community Life Commission that combines food, fellowship, and “courses” about the saints. We discussed the website redesign and where to place the video webcasts of formation programs. We are videotaping the **We Celebrate: The Eucharist** series in an effort to make this program available to the larger community. The series, which concludes next Tuesday, has been very well attended. The Commission also talked about the upcoming Lenten programs including **Family Soup and Stations of the Cross** scheduled for March 25 and April 8. We discussed how we might better support families in their faith journey by providing more **childcare**, which would allow couples to attend programs and events they might otherwise miss. We reviewed our ideas for strengthening our ongoing programs and some of us will be informally developing these ideas over the next few months. Finally, we touched on the planning of the next *leadership night formation talk* scheduled for May and the **We Live: As Blessing** series scheduled for March 22-April 12.

ENCOURAGING CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER

Spiritual & Liturgical Life Commission reports that the **Silent Retreat for St. Dominic's parishioners** will be held from **June 3-5, at Menlo Park's Vallombrosa Center**, which is accessible by car and by public transportation. The retreat master will be Fr. Michael Fones, O.P. Announcement and registration materials are being prepared. 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 to rest, reflect, and renew in the presence of a prayerful community.

SHARING OUR STORIES

The Outreach Commission reports that the Social Justice Council will begin its Lenten Series on March 11, 6:30-7:30 p.m., with **Invisible Children: Child Soldiers**. On March 18, the **Not for Sale Campaign** regarding human trafficking will be discussed. Future topics for the remainder of the series are to be determined. They invite all to attend these valuable Lenten exercises.

The Administration Commission reported that the new founding volunteer leader of the **parish communications committee** is Leslie Roberts. She is already hard at work conducting interviews with staff, religious and lay leadership. Her next task will be to use our new email contact system to share the Lenten calendar over email, and then begin work on a periodic newsletter for the parish.

OTHER NOTEWORTHY DEVELOPMENTS

- The Pastoral Council reports that the **Website team** will re-examine the overall architecture of the site with the three top priorities: more flexible back-end content management and user permissions that can be controlled at a more granular level; ability for users to follow events: receive reminders, updates, notes about events on the calendar and organize the site to mirror the leadership structure of the Parish.
- The Pastoral Council also discussed **ME25**, the church survey used to measure the engagement levels of its parishioners. There is an ongoing effort to get more parishioners more engaged in the church.