



# ST. DOMINIC'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Every month the Leadership Commissions meet to discuss their progress on **four major parish initiatives for 2011: 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 June 6, 2011.

## WELCOMING

The **Seder Meal** was held on Monday, April 11, in the parish hall. The "Sold Out" crowd was able to participate in a meal commemoration the Lord's Last Supper. We thank the many volunteers who created such a wonderful meal and event. The Easter Vigil Reception was held on Saturday, April 23. Over 300 guests were delighted to experience a magical spring theme centered on "Bees & Honey." Everyone enjoyed the decor, delicious food and sweet treats. The Community Life Commission was on hand to welcome and serve our RCIA members and their guests. We want to extend a big "thank you" to all that volunteered to make this a great success!

**On Sunday, May 8, please join us for Hospitality after 11:30 a.m. Mass.** This is a great opportunity to have coffee and goodies, compliments of other parishioners from the 11:30 Mass. Everyone is welcome to participate and donate. We want to thank the many volunteers that participated and supported this community building activity. The next **Newcomer's Orientations will be held, May 21-22** after most Masses. Members of the Community Life Commission will be on hand to welcome new parishioners, assist with the application process and answer questions. The next **Living Your Strength Journey will begin in July.** This is an invitation to all parishioners who want to discover their God-given strengths. The next "Strengths Starter" meeting will be held on Sunday, June 26, and the series of sessions will be held after the 5:30 p.m. Mass, starting July 10.

## BROADENING ADULT FAITH FORMATION

This month the Formation Commission began planning the formation programs to be offered in 2011-2012. We have scheduled **Commitment Sunday on September 18, 2011.** Commitment Sunday provides an opportunity for adults to take the next step on their faith journey, by selecting among formation programs and making a commitment to themselves and the parish community. Commission members were assigned the task of researching and reflecting on ideas for a theme for the 2011-2012 year. Each member will send the results of their research to the other commission members by Friday, May 27. We also discussed how to improve the administration of the formation programs and better communicate with parishioners.

Finally, commission members will meet during the month of May to solidify our plans and **ideas on how to best utilize space**, display cases, banners and other materials that will assist in spreading the word about faith formation.

## ENCOURAGING CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER

The Spiritual & Liturgical Life Commission reports that the **silent retreat** for St. Dominic's parishioners will be held from June 3-5 at Vallombrosa Retreat Center. A number of parishioners have already registered. An email announcement has been sent to the parishioners who are on the St. Dominic's email list. A final announcement flyer will be in this weekend's bulletin and there will be announcements at all the Masses. Information is also available on the St. Dominic's web site. **Parishioners should register in the parish office by Tuesday, May 10.** The Liturgy Committee will produce a **parish Missal** with the new translation of the Mass. These will be available in the pews when we start using the new translation in November.

## OTHER NOTEWORTHY DEVELOPMENTS

The Administration Commission says **thank you** to all those who participated in the website survey. Your candid feedback was instructive, and has subsequently been included into a feature list. The scope of the project has been defined and presented to the Pastoral Council. Over the next several months, we will be working to implement the suggested changes to the website.

The Pastoral Council reports that members from the Administration Commission presented the results of the **web-site needs assessment survey.** (The team has done excellent work!) Michael Smith proposed having a **Parish-wide directory** created for St. Dominic's. The directory would include a book with parishioners' pictures as well as an online version. The Pastoral Council will vote on it. The council had a long discussion on how to address the **two ME 25 questions** that the Council selected as their action planning questions for this year:

- E1: "As a parishioner, I know what is expected of me."
- E12: "In my parish, I have the opportunity to learn and grow in my faith."

The discussion will continue in a future meeting.