



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 July 11, 2011.

WELCOMING

The Community Life Commission reported that **Newcomer's Orientations** were held on May 21-22 after most Masses. Members of the Community Life Commission were on hand to welcome new parishioners and assist with the application process and answer questions. Today, June 12, please enjoy the **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 thank the many volunteers who participated and supported this community building activity. The next **"Living Your Strengths Journey"** will begin in July. We invite all parishioners who want to discover their God-given strengths. The next Information Session is today, June 12, after the 5:30 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. Masses. Plan on attending the next "Strengths Starter" session that will be held on Sunday, June 26, and the series of sessions to be held after the 5:30 p.m. Mass, starting July 10.

The Administration Commission reported that the **website redesign** scope has been locked down and an estimate of required resources is being established. The Administration Commission reported that the effort to create a Communications Committee has been set aside in favor of a narrower scope: establishing a **periodic e-newsletter.**

SHARING OUR STORIES

The Social Justice Committee is taking on the issue of **Human Trafficking.** We will be having a series on the topic with the hope of folks actually getting involved to bring awareness and an end to trafficking. We are planning movies, talks and future strategy planning. Our **ushers** are still planning a commissioning and blessing of the ushers and servers. Dates to be determined. **Community Service: Sister Anne needs cooks for Tuesdays in the Lima Center and Drivers to drop food on Thursdays** from St. Dominic's to two locations on 8th and Howard and another location nearby. Drivers usually meet at St Dominic's at 5:30 on Thursdays. Three of **Lima Center's guests** have passed away recently and Sister Anne is planning a memorial service. The **Mass of Remembrance** is also being planned most likely for August. There are a lot of

things that Community Service does which folks may not know. We have very generous parishioners that provide resources in order for Community Service to **help with Rents, Tuitions, Medical,** etc. They do a lot more than just the Lima Center and it is good for us all to be aware of this, and the generosity of parishioners.

BROADENING ADULT FAITH FORMATION

The Formation Commission has chosen the theme **No Greater Love** (John 15:13) for the 2011-2012 formation year. The theme will be used to bring into focus the key concepts of the Gospel of Mark (which will be the main Gospel used in the coming liturgical year) enhanced by the language of John. Commitment Sunday is September 18, 2011 and the **We Believe** lecture series will begin on October 4th. We are currently in the process of developing the curriculum for the 2011-2012 formation programs. The Formation Commission discerned the need for **improved display areas** in our church building and parish office. We researched and developed coordinated procedures and configurations that present parish programs and community events in a more effective, welcoming, and beautiful way. Our goal is to better represent the life and character of our parish through visual display. Commission members prepared a proposal that was presented to the Pastoral Council on Monday evening and the Parish Staff on Tuesday. We will follow-up on the outcome of the presentations. The next **Leadership Night formation presentation** is scheduled for the August meeting. The presentation will include tips and processes to enhance meeting facilitation and group decision-making. We have had a busy and, we hope, fruitful Faith Formation year. The final session of the **We Serve** series *Go Therefore and Make Disciples* was held on Tuesday evening. The series was well attended and full of enthusiasm throughout. The Morning of Reflection entitled *What We Do for the Least We Do for Christ* was held on Saturday. Still to come is the **Called and Gifted Workshop** on Friday, June 17 and Saturday, June 18 and the **Summer Bible Study on the Gospel of Matthew** which runs each Tuesday evening from June 21 through August 9. **Summer Vacation Bible Camp** runs from Wednesday, June 13, through Sunday, June 17, and **Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Training** begins on August 5.

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ENCOURAGING CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER

The **silent retreat** for St. Dominic's parishioners was held last weekend, June 3-5, at the Vallombrosa Retreat Center. It was attended by a variety of parishioners with ages of attendees ranging from their 20's to 70's. For some this was a new experience because they had never attended a retreat before. There were attendees from all the Masses at St. Dominic's so it represented an opportunity to meet other parishioners we don't normally see at Mass. Attendees felt the retreat was very successful and the retreat master was a huge hit and made a strong impression on attendees.

OTHER NOTEWORTHY DEVELOPMENTS

Display Publicity: Michael Smith and Anne Marie from the Formation Committee gave a very nice comprehensive presentation on display options for the Church to the Pastoral Council. There seemed to be a consensus that the vestibule would be the best space for the displays. A few options seemed most popular. The council is not keen on removing pews to make room for the display. The presentation will be given to the staff tomorrow. Great ideas!

- **ME 25 Brief Action Planning Context:** The Pastoral Council plans to use the Gallup Action Plan for moving forward on ME25 with the Council deciding and not putting the decisions on Fr. Xavier. We will delve into this in more detail the next meeting.
- **Time change for the Pastoral Council:** It was decided the council will meet at 6:30 p.m. before the Leadership meetings. Next, the Leadership meeting will start at 7:00 p.m. After the next meeting, Parish Council will meet at 6:30 p.m.; the leadership meeting will start at 7:15 p.m. and run until 8:15 p.m. We want to bring to our committees what has been discussed at the Pastoral Council meeting, so it is top of mind and on the agenda each month. We will meet briefly after the Leadership meetings to cover any action item that arises from the committees.