



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 most recent meeting. The next Leadership Night is September 12, 2011.

THANK YOU (and one more chance) ...

We wish to thank the many people who wrote a few words on the signboards last week, telling us what you love about St. Dominic's and what you would do to help make ours a model parish for the 21st century church. One such board remains in the vestibule this weekend, so feel free to add your comments today. The feedback helps us all understand the two-way covenant that exists between St. Dominic's and its parishioners! You can peruse the results at today's reception in the school building.

WELCOMING

Last month, Outreach Leadership welcomed Karlynn Vandiggelen to the commission.

The next **Newcomer's Orientation** will be held on September 10-11 after most Masses. Members of the Community Life Commission will be on-hand to sign up new Parishioners or Associate Members.

The next **Hospitality Gathering** will be held on Sunday, August 14, after the 11:30 a.m. Mass. Come for great treats and take the opportunity to meet new friends here at St. Dominic's. Our **Living Your Strengths Journey** is in its final week, with more than 35 parishioners. Our next session is planned for the Fall. Break out your wooden spoons: our **Medieval Meal** is on Saturday, August 20, at 6:00 p.m. Come experience a community building event where you can get your hands dirty while you share food and wine with fellow parishioners.

SHARING OUR STORIES

From the Outreach Commission: Parishioners are invited by the Social Justice Committee to raise their awareness around **human trafficking** by logging on to the [CNN.com/Freedom Project](http://CNN.com/FreedomProject). On September 9, there will be a celebration of the **50th Anniversary of the Peace Corps**. Anyone who has served or is interested in this work and stories is invited. Contact Lee Gallery at the Parish Office for details.

BROADENING ADULT FAITH FORMATION

From the Formation Commission: Michael Smith gave a short presentation to all commissions on the topic of **"Decision-Making in Our Commissions."** The presentation included processes and tips to enhance group

decision-making. The Formation Commission had prepared procedures and configurations for improved display areas in our church buildings and presented them to the Parish Council and Parish Staff. The project is now being considered for final approval.

The theme for the 2011-2012 Formation year is **No Greater Love**. This month the Commission continued planning for **Commitment Sunday**, which is September 18, 2011. The Commission also discussed broadening the parent formation lectures to include all adults with topics that reflect the **No Greater Love** theme.

The final session of the **Summer Bible Study** on the Gospel of Matthew will be Tuesday, August 9. The sessions were well attended and participants were very engaged. **RCIA** begins Tuesday, September 13, 2011. Last weekend, nine teens and their parents helped to make lunches for the **Compass Family Shelter** along with members of Sherith Israel and Calvary Presbyterian youth groups. We hope to plan more service events like this.

ENCOURAGING CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER

On August 27, at 10:00 a.m., the annual **Mass of Remembrance** will be held in the main church.

The Spiritual Life and Liturgy Commission heard a presentation for a possible **one-day holistic retreat**, which offered in the late Fall or early Spring. The material for the retreat would be drawn from the Pauline Scriptures; *Theology of the Body*, by Pope John Paul II; and *The Holy Longing: the search for Christian Spirituality*, by Richard Rolheiser.

OTHER NOTEWORTHY DEVELOPMENTS

- From the Outreach Commission: Since incidents in Mexico make **Mission of Love** projects untenable, our deposit at Corazon will be donated to scholarships and eye surgery for indigent twins in Nuevo Milenio. The remaining funds will go the St. Dominic's Youth Program.
- From the Administration Commission: The **website development project** is moving forward. We are currently asking for assistance in determining which code language best suits the needs of the features asked for by parishioners. We are also beginning to 'storyboard' the website to determine functionality.