

## Charlotte/Greece/Hilton Parishes Evangelization Team

January 18, 2024

### Notes

Present: **Holy Cross/Our Mother of Sorrows:** John Owens, **St. Charles Borromeo:** Rose Marie Lombard, **St. John the Evangelist:** Marianne Katz, Dominick Zarcone, **St. Leo the Great:** Joan Rohr, **Facilitator/link to the Pastoral Planning Task Force:** Karen Rinefield

Excused: **St. Lawrence:** Patricia Urbinelli, **St. Mark:** Carolyn DelVecchio

**Purpose** of this group: to share parish evangelization best practices, to design and implement shared evangelization projects

#### **Target audiences:**

1. Members of our parishes—helping them deepen their relationship with God.
2. Members of our parishes—helping them talk to others about their faith without judging or criticizing.
3. Members of our parishes who pulled back during Covid.

**Objectives** to help parishioners deepen their relationship with God:

1. Publish a list of good electronic resources for Catholics
2. Advent/Lent event for all 7 parishes
3. Answer “where did you find God today?” with responses shared
4. Communicating opportunities for Adoration and Bible Study

**Opening prayer:** Mk 1:14-20, intercessory prayers, the Lord’s Prayer

#### **Lent 2024 flyer**

- We have heard from several parishioners that the Advent flyer was helpful. We have no feedback regarding whether any went to an event beyond their own parish except that Fr. Bob Kennedy’s presentation on Eucharist did have more than just St. Charles parishioners in attendance.
- Marianne shared a current draft of the flyer.
- Karen is continuing to send inquiries to parish contacts and receive additional information. She will keep sending those to Marianne who will prepare a final draft on Monday, January 22. Karen will then send that to the pastoral leaders and those providing information at all of the parishes for needed corrections. Joanie Bigham at St. Charles will do a final version to be available on the new shared website and go out to parishes for distribution, ideally on Thursday, January 25.
- Joan noticed that several events for St. Leo the Great were missing and asked if she should reach out to the parish. Karen responded that she has already contacted several parish staff and already received one response which is not reflected in the draft shared tonight.
- Action (all): As we go into Lent if you attend any activities at your own parish, please notice if you see any newcomers participating.

### **Roc Catholics Northwest Lent retreat**

- The Spirituality of Change: Being with Jesus
- March 17, 18, 19 with presenters Fr. Ed Palumbos, Michael Sauter, and Damian Zynda
- 7:00 PM on Sunday, the same session offered at 1:00 and 7:00 PM on Monday and Tuesday
- Will be held at Our Mother of Sorrows—location chosen by the pastoral leaders in consideration of the presenters' desire to use Powerpoint and the need to stream the evening session (to make it possible for those who work and/or have children to participate and in case of poor weather)
- Role of the evangelization team
  - Rose Marie will be away in March and unable to participate/help. John will be away on Sunday and back on Tuesday, maybe Monday. Marianne can likely be present for all the sessions if needed to assist, with the only possible exception being Tuesday, March 19 at 1 PM because of a standing commitment.
  - With future shared Lent retreats, the hope is that the evangelization team (or a special retreat committee) could coordinate most of the work involved, much like a previous 4-parish retreat committee chaired by Patricia Scouten.
  - There was a general sense that refreshments were not needed unless they could be easily accommodated in the gathering area at Our Mother of Sorrows rather than having them downstairs in the Parish Hall.
  - Many details are not yet worked out by the pastoral leaders. The three presenters are recommending using the Liturgy of the Hours for opening prayer. The thought was that with a declining number of priests it is important that parishioners become familiar with this other prayer of the church. Marianne said that she could help with prayer if needed.
  - Joanie Bigham at St. Charles will create the retreat flyer.

### **Spreadsheet of electronic resources**

- Carolyn was ill and could not attend tonight's meeting.
- Karen distributed copies of the most recent draft of the spreadsheet.
- Review of the current draft spreadsheet:
  - Move the "format" column to be first (before "title"). Sort the spreadsheet by "format."
  - If a particular item has several different formats, list it multiple times.
- Since Dominick noticed that some items were missing, he and Carolyn have been in communication. Action (all): Review the spreadsheet (coming soon from Carolyn) to ensure that your items are included. Send any feedback (items missing, changes you would like) to Carolyn.
- Other comments/ideas:
  - If possible, when the spreadsheet is published on the shared website, if a description is long, see if the website people know how to include part of the information followed by "show more"—click and see the rest.
  - As we begin to publicize the electronic resources (in bulletins?), use something catchy like "St. Simon says (go to)." We googled at the meeting and evidently St. Clare of Assisi is patron saint of screens and televisions. Looking afterward, St. Carlo Arcutis evidently is saint of the digital world and others came up as patron saints of the internet, Instagram, Tik Tok, etc. St. Simon is the patron saint of sawmen and tanners but this would be a fun way to mention resources.

**Topics for next agenda**

- Begin long-range planning for this committee.
- Continue working on the spreadsheet of electronic resources and the logistics/marketing around its distribution.
- Begin work on our third objective: Answer “where did you find God today?” with responses shared.
- Ideas previously mentioned:
  - Create a brochure that individuals could use to pray the Stations of the Cross on their own.
  - Publish a list of the social ministries of each parish.
  - (For Lent 2025) a "worksheet" of some sort to distribute with the Lenten flyer so that each parishioner could record their "plan" for Lent. (We ran out of time to do this for 2024.)

**Closing prayer:** Hail Mary

**Next two meeting (in room 7 of the Borromeo Ministry Center at St. Charles)**

- **Thursday, March 7 at 6:30 pm**
- **Thursday, April 4 at 6:30 pm**