



MULTIPARISH COOPERATIVE SERVICE GROUP

*They sowed fields and planted vineyards that yielded a fruitful harvest
Psalm 107*

Southeast Deanery Staff Meeting Minutes

Date: April 11, 2003

Topic: Youth in our Parishes: What Works and What's Happening

Next meeting: June 13, 2003: 10:30 AM to 1:30 PM

Topic: Action plans for Collaboration on Youth Ministry within the Deanery

Agenda

- Will Sousae gave overview of Youth Ministry
- Parish presentations on their Youth programs
- Working lunch with discussion on "Vision for their Youth Programs in 2006"
- Terry Iacino gave a status report on Diocesan Pastoral Plan and schedule in September/October for visit to the Deanery meeting by Bishop McGrath
- Presentations by working groups on their Vision
- Evaluation and Adjourn

Parish Presentations

St. Elizabeth: Christie Bradford, Coordinator Youth Ministry and Confirmation

- Have 70 youths involved with 40 regularly attending weekly meetings
- Use four modules in workshops over a three week period focusing on Prayer, Creed, Holy Spirit, Confirmation, moral issues in today's society and Matrimony, a workshop on relationships
- Combine Catechetical and Social activities
- Now have join programs with St. John Vianney and St. Victor
- Looking for broader collaboration within the deanery
- Have an overnight retreat scheduled with the three parishes in May
- Have 30 Confirmation candidates, which is a two year process
- Do not have a Youth Mass

St. Victor: Sharon Hollenbeck

- Parish is 75% Filipino, the Vietnamese followed by Caucasians
- 160 candidates in the Confirmation program, all high school, a two year process
- Youth meet bi-monthly for two hours
- There are two confirmation classes with 85 in the first and 75 in the second. Normally the average is 200
- Ten years ago there was no Youth group and the parish started to build a confirmation group
- Youth group is open to all high school students and friends Provide Catechism to non-Catholics
- Youth group varies from 5 to 60 depending on what the Sunday night event is
- It is a challenge to help college to 30 year olds keep a social life in their faith



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- There are 100 young adults in various ministries ages 21-40
- Want to grow deanery activities
- Want parishes to pay \$40 each to St. Elizabeth who ate the costs for a failed trip
- Do not have a Youth Mass. Parents want kids at Masses with them

St John Vianney: Julie Moody

- Have a junior high and high school program
- Youth Ministry is not mandatory to be confirmed
- Now up to 40 from 12 in the Youth group
- 40 will be confirmed
- Jr high has 50 members meeting weekly
- Developed a leadership team of 17 youth building skills in leadership
- Deanery programs and events provide kids with opportunity to see Church on a bigger scale

Most Holy Trinity: Bro. Jim Sanders, Parish Administrator

- Parish is financially challenged
- Parish is 1/3 Hispanic, 1/3 Filipino, 1/3 Vietnamese
- Vietnamese run their own programs
- Hispanic and Filipino youth programs are combined
- Jr. High program has 20 youth
- Confirmation is the Youth Group with 150 candidates this year
- Have a 13 week session, candidates must attend plus attend a retreat
- The program is "Kiros" like
- Provide a Gospel study weekly
- Have open house on Fridays for basketball, movies, catechism
- The Sunday night Youth group is moribund
- Now starting a Young adult group of young married's
- Will start a CYO type sports program with the use of the new facility

Christ the King: Fr. Robert Brocato, Pastor

- Parish is 70% Latino, 15% Filipino and 15% Anglo
- Youth are all Spanish speaking
- Glaring need at CTK is for English speaking programs
- Confirmation is a 2 year program with 2 groups and 30 candidates
- 20 will be confirmed at Evergreen on June 7

St. Maria Goretti: Fr. Francisco Rios, Sr. Catherine Dang, Fr. Kevin Joyce

- There are three different youth groups in the parish
- The Hispanic group has a soccer team
- The Vietnamese has 35 leaders



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- Mass and adoration are a major element of the youth programs
- The parish chose the “Life Teen Model” seven years ago because it was prepared, offered training and the materials were in place and the results are positive

Reports: *How will your parish youth program look in 2006?*

St. Victors:

- More youth involved in Liturgy
- More homilies geared to Youth
- There will be adequate preparation and training for ministry
- More welcoming and encouragement for more Youth in ministry

St. Maria Goretti

- Youth will be a strong community
- There will be a weekly Vietnamese Youth Mass
- There will be a distinct Jr. High ministry
- There will be scouting programs
- Parishes will be fully sharing resources across the board
- Teams will be in place to plan large deanery wide events and retreats
- Teams in place to plan fellowship and large events to celebrate our Catholicism
- More effective communications and returning leaders
- Cybercafes are available
- Active ministry engaging Youth in places where Youth congregate
- Sunday evening Youth Mass & Social for all parishes
- On a deanery level, bring all families and youth together for events
- To make it happen, organize strong core teams with planning by the youth
- Actually reaching out to the entire community
- Establish identify as a catholic church, a community that welcomes all youth and fosters interpersonal relationships

St. Elizabeth

- There will be a strong community service attitude
- Youth will be more visible in the community
- There will be a Youth Hall for teens
- There will be a library for resources and materials
- There will be a Youth Mass

St. Francis

- There will be a strong core team of leaders
- There will be distinct groups of High School, Youth and Young Adult
- Stewardship will be a major component of Youth Catechesis
- Effective communications for the Youth programs
- Youth focus in Ministry Formation program



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Christ the King

- There will be a strong training program for Youth serving all parishioners
- There will be a survey of Youth in the Deanery to find out what they want for planning
- There will be a Deanery wide Youth training and formation program

St. Francis

- Young people a mass, motivated and engaged
- Youth more involved in Catechetical
- Helping in environmental, social justice ministries
- Getting excited about the Bible
- Youth tutoring other Youth
- In all parishes there will be 500 adults active

Meeting Evaluation and Outcome

What was good about this meeting?

- Appreciate this opportunity for Youth Ministry to meet with Pastors and share challenges
- Good synopsis of Youth Ministry by Will Sousae
- Helpful to know what items to cover in advance and allow time to write report
- People liked the parish presentations, learning what's going on
- Would like to know who gets notified and how about meetings
- Need to know the names of other Youth ministers at other parishes

What could be better?

- Too bad there are only the same three Youth ministers here
- Need to set a time/date for other Youth ministers to meet and participate
- Oftentimes there are conflicts with the Diocesan schedule
- Need more attention to defining actions on collaboration in the Deanery
- Getting all information on different organizations
- Need more reports from parish
- Need more group discussion
- Will is helpful as moderator
- The major drawback is the lack of Youth leaders present and setting a convenient time that could include them.