

The Catholic Cluster Churches of Grafton

Meeting Minutes for November 12, 2007

HOST: St. James

ATTENDEES: Joe Garabedian, Ed Laliberte, Helen Rehberg, Lois Richard, Marj Gallagher, John Riemer, Bev Cochran, Dave Cochran, John LaPoint, Joan Shanley, Lisa Anderson, Tricia Saviet, Fr. Ray, Lori Lauria, Fr. Ed

1. Opening Prayer (Fr. Ray)
2. Review of Minutes from October 15, 2007.
 - a. Accepted
3. Guest Joan Stanley – Stewardship
 - a. Proposal to cluster – support Mass. Veterans Inc.
 - b. June 2007 – Flag Day campaign
 - i. \$1100. in donations and supplies
 - c. October 2007 – dessert night
 - i. Baked goods brought to veterans
 - ii. Would like all 3 churches to be involved, need 2-3 people from each parish
 - d. 2008 – Valentine’s Day, June 7 & 8 (Flag Day), maybe ice cream social during summer
 - e. Marj G., John R., and Lisa A volunteered; each parish is represented
 - f. Contact info: JFS34@msn.com
4. Sub-Committee Reports
 - a. Sr. Yvonne – Religious Ed.
 - i. meeting monthly
 - ii. 8 active members, 3 others
 - iii. comparing programs
 - iv. open registration? Will know by January 2008
 - v. feel strongly about faith nurtured and stewardship
 - vi. theme by grade (1-8)
 1. Comments
 - a. Very well accepted at parish council meeting (St. James)
 - b. More choices (day and time)
 - c. Ultimate goal not necessarily same program
 - b. John Riemer – Finances
 - i. Have financial statements from all three parishes; will meet Thursday to combine into one.
 - ii. Hopefully find ways to buy smarter or eliminate expenses
 - iii. Last year showed no real expense cutters
 - iv. Meeting in mid-December will have report for January 2008 meeting
 - v. Identify, in diocese, another similar parish (households) to compare finances
 - vi. Fr. Rose good contact
 1. Comments
 - a. Keep finance and facilities separate
 - b. At some point finance and facilities team up to use all resources
 - c. Facility forms to be returned to dioceses, report due in December
 - d. Take photos of facilities
 - c. Lisa Anderson – Stewardship
 - i. Fair in January – info given from each committee

- ii. Gather names and committees from each parish
 - iii. Educate people what stewardship is
 - iv. Call new people to welcome them
 - v. Get more people involved
 - 1. Comments: "Stewardship lives in heart and soul"
- 5. Advent – December 12 penance service to St. James
 - a. Comments
 - i. Tone it down, no refreshments; gathering hymn, psalm, reading, gospel, confession
 - ii. 3 priests, maybe Fr. Anthony for younger
 - iii. week before – explain on altar / remind people how to go to confession
 - iv. Fr. Ray explained difference between communal and individual confession
 - v. Fr. Hanlon and Trish will work on folder
 - vi. "Bring a friend, share a miracle"
 - vii. next year Nativity for cluster
- 6. New Business
 - a. Craft fairs
 - i. St. James and St. Mary's on same day in November 2007; both report good fairs
 - b. Reflections
 - i. Need for strong lay person to lead
 - ii. Look for secretary
 - iii. Host take mins. – given to one secretary, same format and timing
 - iv. Tapping meetings
 - v. Bullet points from each committee before meeting – better prepared
 - vi. New meeting schedule
 - 1. 2 in the fall, January, March, May
 - 2. fall for planning; May for wrapping up
 - vii. meetings no longer than 1.5 hours
 - viii. established subcommittees
 - 1. Religious Ed., Finances, Building/Property
 - 2. Stewardship starting up, Liturgy to be started
 - ix. January Priority – Format for Lent
 - 1. Firm dates March 2, 3, and 4th or 9, 10, 11th.
 - 2. Get people from parishes together for ideas
 - 3. Why has mass on Common not been done again?
 - a. Maybe every few years because of tremendous planning
- 7. Next Meeting – January 14, 2008 at St. Mary's
- 8. Closing Prayer (Fr. Ed Hanlon)