

... and Justice for All  
Sunday, February 16, 2014

Present: Mary and Dave Tschantz; Linda and Harry Skeen; Carolyn Varner; Larry Furman; Anne Burris; Jack and Jan Pierson; Cathy Sivec, guest

After the meeting was convened at 10:25, Carolyn handed out a flyer describing St. Hilary's Lenten speaker series. For the opening prayer, Mary read from the summary of Catholic social teachings the portion addressing rights and responsibilities.

### Ongoing Projects

1. Forest Lodge series: Cathy Sivec, parish DRE/Youth Minister described the Faith Lodge program and explained that if our group wants to participate, she needs to know who will lead the discussion, the topic and the title at least a month before the discussion is scheduled. After discussion, we agreed to take responsibility for presentations on the fourth Thursday of each month, beginning in March. Mary T. said she would call Judge John Quinn to ask him to address the March meeting. Our group will be responsible for presentations and discussions at six Faith Lodge meetings this year: March 27, April 24; May 22; August 28; Sept 25; and Oct 23. All agreed to think about possible topics/speakers and provide our ideas to Mary by email. Cathy then said that she and Fr V are talking about a Lenten series presented at 1-hr sessions on a Mon, Tues, Wed at the end of March, organized to address the three aspects of poverty identified as priorities by Pope Francis: material poverty, spiritual poverty and moral poverty.

2. Re: Catholic Commission, as neither Greg nor Hank were present, there was no report on the February 1 event at St. Paul's. The Catholic Commission has not met since our last meeting.

3. Mary asked that anyone who plans to attend the March 14-15 program *The Papacy: One Year Later* at John Carroll inform her by e-mail so she can register us as a group (\$60/person). Mary and Dave T, Annie, Rita are planning to attend for sure. Mary T will invite Fr McDonough to join us. Fr. John O'Malley of Georgetown is one of the speakers.

### Minutes; calendar

Minutes of the January meeting were not available. In regard to the calendar e-mailed by Mary Y., Carolyn said she will provide the prayer and treat in October and Linda and Harry said they will cover the November meeting. There will be no meeting in June or December and the April meeting will be on the 13<sup>th</sup>, not the 20<sup>th</sup>.

### General Session

Carolyn led the discussion of the introduction to *Evangelii Gaudium*, Joy of the Gospel, first distributing a summary of the main features of the apostolic exhortation. She also shared a copy of an article from America describing Steven Colbert. Highlights of the ensuing discussion:

- we need to have a new joy in our evangelization efforts
- section 4 of the exhortation describes the numerous portions of the Old Testament which call for joy
- section 3 stresses the truth that God never tires of forgiving us
- daily practice of joy in the Lord produces succor and light in times of pain
- section 7 stresses the need for interaction with other believers
- Francis' authentic humanity is shown by his empathy grounded in his experience

- section 17 includes guidelines for how to evangelize in three settings; and
- rejoicing is central to evangelization.

At our March 16 meeting, Jan will lead the discussion of Chapter 1 (paragraphs 19-49); Jack and Jan have prayer and treat.

#### Announcements

Carolyn handed out the flyer describing St. Hilary/Faith Lutheran Lenten speakers series to be held Wednesdays beginning March 12.

The March 14 First Friday meeting will feature representatives of each Catholic high school.

St. Sebastian proposed Lenten program will conflict with the last night of St. Hilary's program.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned approximately at 11:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Pierson

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