

Meeting Minutes
St. Sebastian/St. Vincent Social Justice Ministry
Sunday, August 16, 2015

Members Present: Annie Burris, Jack Pierson, Jan Pierson, Harry Skeen, Linda Skeen, Dave Tschantz, Mary Tschantz, Carolyn Varner, Mary Yanko

Prayer: Annie read the opening prayer, by Henry Ward Beecher. We remembered in a special way Fr. Gordon Yahner, who died suddenly this week.

Minutes of the June meeting were acknowledged and placed on file. Jack suggested Minutes indicate who prepares them.

General Session:

1. After continued spirited discussion, we determined: Title for our group: St Sebastian/St Vincent Social Justice Ministry (we will drop subtitle: ...and Justice for All).
2. Organizing **Laudato Si** – Carolyn met with Cathy Sivec re: encyclical discussion for the parish; Fr V has approved the direction proposed with study guide from USCCB; a 2-pg summary will be in the bulletin, along with an explanatory announcement. Carolyn's goal is to have the info in the bulletin Aug 30.
3. Make sure we include Candy Bates (our PC rep) on the outline on this issue; ask her to promote study in parish council.
4. How to divide up study: Divide into 3 parts: On Sunday mornings, our regular meeting time, followed by Forest Lodge repeat session on Thursday nights...in Sept 20 and 24, Oct 18 and 22, and Nov 15 and 19; the goal to make it as accessible as possible for folks to attend...
5. Invite parish groups with specific environmental concerns: grounds crew, scouts, etc.
6. Once Carolyn determines how the encyclical will be divided for discussion purposes, she will designate discussion leaders for each session. The idea is any of us present for the Sunday morning discussion could lead the following Thursday, if the designated leader is not available for that session...

Jack shared articles from *The Nation*, a newspaper in Seattle, and other sources regarding moral arguments by pope; Carolyn shared Fr. Barron about who influenced the pope; pope's encyclical is not newly formed – ideas formulating for a long time...last 4 popes have talked about environment...Karl Rahner was cited as an additional resource.

Dave will continue the discussion with Walt Ogonek, and/or Jennifer Jones in the parish office re: how to get inserts in the bulletin included in the online version.

Announcements:

1. Larry Furman is in Byrider Hall this am working on the bake sale to support the parish mission to El Salvador.

2. The World Day of Prayer to Care for Creation is September 1, 2015. Carolyn will reference in connection to our bulletin announcement discussion the pope's encyclical *Laudato Si*.
3. First Friday September 11, 2015 features orphan survivor of Rwanda genocide, Pacific Niyonzima, current student at Walsh University
4. Remember to sign up for Operation Orange at website for Akron/Canton Foodbank – volunteer opportunity with the Catholic Commission, Friday, Sept 11 4-6PM
5. Catholic Commission Retreat Thursday August 20, 6pm at St. Hilary. All are invited – Fr. Norm Douglas will facilitate on “Enneagrams – Tool for Better Understanding Ourselves and Others” Note: Enneagrams is a theory of personality development based on Asian philosophy. RSVP to Diane Zbasnik dsbasnik@ccdoble.org. Dinner included.

Next Meeting: Sunday, September 20, 10AM @ St. Sebastian Byrider Hall. Remember: First Discussion Session for encyclical *Laudato Si*. Our regular meeting will follow general session, open to all parishioners.

Prayer/Treat: Greg Discussion Leader:

Mark your calendar for remaining 2015 meetings: Sept 20, Oct 18, Nov 15.

Prepared by Mary Tschantz.