

Meeting Minutes
St. Sebastian/St. Vincent/St. Bernard Social Justice Ministry
Sunday, February 12, 2017

Members Present: Larry Furman, Jack Pierson, Jan Pierson, Bernie Rochford, Rita Rochford, Greg Sain, Dave Tschantz, Mary Tschantz, Carolyn Varner, and Mary Yanko.

Prayer: Jack read the opening prayers invoking Jesus the Immigrant, and God of Journey, God of the Traveler.

General Session: Rita led the discussion of Chapter 1 of *Amoris Laetitia* called “In the Light of the Word”. Members felt there was much to agree with in the chapter regarding the importance of the family, and the married state, although that positive reading must accept and get beyond the ‘traditional, historical’ language referring to the family unit and relationships within the family. “May we strive for the ideal but always remember the compassion of Christ” “...the word of God is not a series of abstract ideas but rather a source of comfort and companionship for every family that experiences difficulties or suffering.” The pope clearly favors a pastoral approach to family issues. Towards the end of the Chapter, the right/need to work is discussed in terms of the stability of the family, making the important connection to that principle of Catholic Social Teaching.

Larry will lead the discussion in March of Chapter 2; Carolyn will send him questions from her “teacher’s edition.”

Minutes: The January Minutes were reviewed and will be placed on file.

Reports:

1. Catholic Commission – CRS Rice Bowl event was held Feb 11 at St V-M H.S.
2. Meeting Sites for 2017: Goal is to have 3 meetings/year at each ministry parish- Rectory Room at St V was not ready for Feb. meeting, therefore meeting was held at St. Sebastian. Fr. Norm assures it will be ready for March. So, meeting rotation begins in March at St V, then goes to St B in August for three months, then back to St Seb in Nov, since Jan and Feb were held at St Seb. Please put dates/times/places on your calendars!

REVISED MEETING SCHEDULE 2017 *3rd Sunday, unless noted;
no meeting June, July, December.

March 19 – St. Vincent 9:30AM– Meet in Rectory, following 8:30AM Liturgy

***April 23** (16th is Easter) St. Vincent 9:30AM

May 21 – St Vincent 9:30AM

August 20 – St. Bernard 11AM, following 10AM Liturgy –
Meet in lower level, social hall

September 17 – St Bernard 11AM

October 15 – St. Bernard 11AM

November 19 – St. Sebastian 10AM (following 9AM Liturgy) Meet in Byrider Hall,
Room 2

3. Discussion continued regarding 2017 Social Justice Ministry Lenten Program at Faith Lodge on three Thursdays in March: 9, 16, and 23, revolving around topics found in *Amoris Laetitia*.

Current plan:

March 9 – Rita Rochford, St V parishioner, (or someone else from Juvenile Court) will speak on Dependency, Neglect, Abuse issues.

March 16 - St Seb Parishioner Jennifer Sullivan, a foster parent, will speak on the role, along with her friend, a former foster child who is now a foster parent.

March 23 – Speaker from NAMI (National Alliance for the Mentally Ill) possibly former parishioner Ron Rett, will speak on negotiating the system for families with a member with mental health issues.

Calendar:

1. Friday March 3– First Friday Club – 11:30am-1pm @ Tangier – Students from Summit County Catholic and Public Schools on “How God Has Walked With Me Through High School”
2. March 3 – “Faith Alive” retreat at St. Hilary given by Fr. Norm Douglas
3. “Building Bridges...Conversations on Race” a series presented by/at local churches
 - a. March 8 @ St. Hilary
 - b. March 22 @ New Hope Baptist Church
 - c. March 29 @ Faith Lutheran
 - d. April 5 @ St. Hilary

For further information, see St. Hilary’s newsletter, or their website.

Next Meeting: Sunday, March 19, 2017, 9:30AM @ St. Vincent Rectory (following 8:30AM Liturgy)

Prayer/Treat: Tschantz

Minutes prepared by Mary Tschantz