



## Stella Maris Parish Leadership Planning Meeting 2

Baileys Harbor

Tuesday, April 14, 2015

Present: Fr. Dave Ruby, Br. Ray Kozuch-Moderator, Michelle Piatek, June Biemeret, Sharon Brabson, Paul Liss, Jan Liss, Bart Ahern, Larry Garske, Kathy Sedan, Becky Nash, Doug Van Vorous, Linda Cummer, Pat Gureski, Lorie Orthober, Carol Eaton, Richard Dannhausen, Dixie Van Vorous, June Biermeret, Marian Irmen

Brother Ray led us in Prayer to Mary, written by Brother Ray at 1:00PM.

Focus: Unity Discipleship/Spirituality Hospitality, Community

Handouts: Worksheet on the five aspects of parish: Evangelization was added to the list.

Comments: One obstacle that is seen is that new people are coming into the parish and we don't know as many within our parish as we did when we attended individual sites.

The Sunday morning coffee hour, which was designed to help that situation, was offered at only one site; the bible study groups that have been formed helps with relating to one parish. The fact that the faith formation program for youth at one site and the parents coming into the building to meet the students creates a social atmosphere among the adults that didn't always happen before. New faces may bring new issues.

Br. Ray states that we then need to put on our hospitality hats and making the new people welcoming. One comment was made that during the winter months we worry about the lack of how we operate in the winter without seasonal people to help and how we work when the many seasonal people are present; how we work with weddings and funerals for non-parishioners. Br. Ray – we need to be attentive to special needs groups within the parish.

Fr. Dave stated another visiting population are the overseas seasonal workers that we haven't made specific efforts to accommodate. He sees that many of the people who have lived here all their lives are not taking part in leadership.

Br. Ray says it's important that we look at "who might be a part of solving some of these issues."

Comment: One fix may be using the Name of Stella Maris as the patron of the entire parish, but we can retain the name of the sites that they were originally.

Br. Ray - We have to look at what we're doing to enhance the future of the church.

Parish Programs: We were asked to list programs that express the mission goals and priority objectives of the parish.

Items listed: **Burials** – June stated, as director, she feels she lacks spirituality in dealing with families.

**Weddings** have become destination weddings. It is felt many of the attendees may never attend church again.

**Hospitality** and welcoming is important – finding people of all ages to be welcomers and greeters. (2)

**Website development** to cover all aspects of our parish; if we had a webmaster it would help communications.

Encourage more **young people** to get involved in parish activity.

**Ministry Volunteers** (5)

**Women's Groups** (2)

Developing a **mentor program** for youth.

Centralizing **women's groups**

Getting **more people involved**

**Faith Formation** (16)

Small prayer study groups to come together **Eucharistic Adoration** (2)

**St. Vincent DePaul** (2)

**Stewardship** (11)

**Evangelization** (2)

**Christian Service and Responsibility** (2)

**Christ Renews His Parish**

Welcoming **New members - Newcomer's brunch** (4)

**Men's Scripture Group**

**Worship/Liturgy** (5)

**Older population** of the parish

**All Inclusive**

**Community**

**Communications** (3)

**Identity**

**Disciple Leadership**

Fr. Dave spoke to having read the book; "Forming Intentional Disciples, published by OSV on— leadership We need to be confident as Catholics. We have to be more inviting personally to ask people to do things. We all should feel good about how we are continually work to do things better.

Br. Ray stated he heard great affirmation today about our worship and liturgy.

We reviewed the new parish's mission and vision statements and reflected on how all of the program/activity priorities mentioned today fit in as to how we are meeting our mission and vision.

Br. Ray suggested the parish develop a retreat program. We are a unique parish. We have options to look at these main priorities and take a challenge on how we want to put this together based on who we are as a parish. In a year or less we may want to do an evaluation on how we have done?

We have missions in place, so our leadership, through the commissions, need to evaluate our priorities and evaluate how well we are doing what we are doing and what should we do differently?

It was suggested to look at the six most mentioned and set priorities within those categories and take them to the commissions. Do we need to define a "disciple" as our first priority to work toward meeting our vision?

Bart Ahern reminded us the parish offered "discipleship training" within the past year, but only a few took advantage of it. Fr. Dave stated that Br. Ray suggested to have a small group form to do some evaluation on the priorities.

Fr. Dave stated Worship helps form disciples; faith formation helps form disciples; we evangelize to create disciples. We might also write in our bulletin maybe once a month about stewardship how we are taking care of our properties and being more transparent. We could have people witness on the weekends more.

Br. Ray suggested this leadership group meet again in the fall. As we move ahead we are doing all our many programs/activities together working toward our discipleship. He stated we may need to not decide on priorities, but to take some time to discern where we are on working on our discipleship.

Fr. Dave suggests that perhaps we can educate our parishioners on our vision statement and discipleship; perhaps by reading the statement before mass or creating a core group to develop a proposal to enhance discipleship within the parish. Fr. Dave encouraged each of us to grow our discipleship and the result will show in parishioner growth by those who know us.

In conclusion, Br. Ray read from the January minutes our statements or ways we are working toward meeting our vision, and what came up strongly today was discipleship.

Fr. Dave asked for five volunteers to speak with him after the meeting to form group to develop a plan to help with discipleship growth in our parish.

Meeting ended with comments on how well the meeting helped us continue to grow and singing the last verse of the hymn Bro Ray wrote for us. 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Gureski