

Eucharistic Adoration in the Church

A-3 How can we develop a personal ministry program to increase parishioner participation within our parish?

Strategic Solutions:

Have a representative from each ministry define the ministry and give an example of how being a part of the ministry is rewarding and/or inspiring during Mass

Survey and solicit participation from existing parishioners – gifts and talents workshops, gifts and talents survey

Schedule a Ministry Sunday annually

Have a regularly scheduled “New Parishioners Coffee” and personally invite new parishioners to attend

Expand a Welcoming Committee to include:

Parishioner personal contact volunteers – to call at regular intervals to see if the parishioners have any questions or needs; regular welcoming coffee; Gifts and Talents Form; parish resources.

Publish a list of Parish Ministries/contacts in the Bulletin

Develop a *formal* Stewardship Sunday (time, talent and treasure)

Utilize the resources of the Archdiocese

Utilize the resources/knowledge of other parishes

Create parishioner committee to attend Archdiocesan led workshops, (i.e., the one attended by Megan/Jim/Don)

Investigate the possibility of a Sunday night Mass

Contact Mundelein Seminary or Marytown on availability of priests to cover a Sunday night Mass

Community Forum Solutions:

Have adult alter servers, female and male

Define what a personal ministry is and communicate in Bulletin, web-site, etc.

Build on the existing “Living with Christ” retreat

Highlight some of the pamphlets and books the Church has available via the Bulletin and web-site, etc.

Update people regularly about money donated

Sunday evening Mass

A-4 How can we make accommodations for young families?

Strategic Solutions:

Make our Cry Room functional

Family parking spot(s)

Set aside pews for large families

Provide baby-sitting service at Mass

Have families involved at Masses – Family Mass – bringing children up to the front

Expand Church to provide more greeting/worship/ space

Have more Children’s Liturgies, i.e. every week, 9:30 Mass

Community Forum Solutions:

More child care at parish events

Accommodations for young families at Mass, i.e. remote TV monitor in basement, young children activities before, during and after Mass

Monthly informal Family Mass

A parish prayer, after the Prayers of the Faithful, so everyone feels connected to the Parish

Survey young families and ask what would make them more comfortable

Priests should make young families feel more welcome

Small group preparation for marriage

Match surrogate grandparents with young parish families

Conduct parenting classes

Establish a parish family baby-sitting group

Nursery day care during Mass

Need more than just Liturgy of the Word for young children, especially at 9:30 and 11:30

IMPLEMENTATION TEAM “B”:

PARISH-WIDE EDUCATION

Purpose Statement

The purpose of the Parish-wide Education Planning Team is to create a plan that will provide educational and faith-based activities and participation for the Church and community.

Challenges

B-1 How can we develop a closer relationship with God by growing spiritually?

Strategic Solutions:

Support DRE efforts by helping to increase program attendance; attend and invite a friend

Develop home-based Bible studies to reach young adults, singles, seniors, men, intergenerational

Recruit and develop facilitators for bible study groups

Develop a men’s ministry, e.g. men’s bible study, breakfasts, retreats

Community Forum Solutions:

More retreats and retreats for moms during the day

More practical, deeper homilies

Have one intercessory prayer gatherings

Ecumenical services, relationships, ecumenical weekend

Adult education, men’s group, women’s group

Adult topics, e.g. sexuality, divorce, dealing with elderly parents

B-2 How can we bridge the gap and have children of “one church”? (gap =making children of the school and the children of religious ed. feel that they are members of the same parish?)

Strategic Solutions:

Continue shared sacramental preparation, e.g. Confirmation and First Communion

Investigate opportunities to integrate school children and religious ed. children in activities such as retreats, summer camp, summer bible school, community service activities and others

Community Forum Solutions:

Have an extra RE day with school and religious ed. students

More priest involvement

Have young kids go to church basement for private lessons, gospel, etc. and return to Sanctuary before Consecration at every Mass

Combine First Communion for school and RE

Better communication regarding activities with local public school district