

Cumberland/York Counties Coordinators Association February 11, 2010

Members Attending: Donna Glynn, Kris Benson, Jackie Moreau, Rosanne Smith, Kathy George, Shelly Carpenter, Rose Cronin, Sandy Litcher, Sharon Pilk, Rosalie Aube, Kathleen Sparda, Judy Dominick, Larry Guertin, Lisa Champagne, Liz Williams, Laurie Kelly, Elaine Hollywood, Carolyn Houston, Grace Tucci Libby, Donna Lebel, and Kris Torrey

Opening Prayer: Gathering Prayer by Kathleen Sparda

Secretary's Report To be reviewed at the April Meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Spring Retreat is May 4 – 6. See treasurers report.

Upcoming events:

- † High School Youth Ministry – Diocesan Lenten Retreats for High School Youth. See diocesan website for details.
- † Initiation Retreats – March 27th. Initiation Retreat for Adults at St Martha's in Kennebunkport, Contact Roseanne Smith on how many are attending from your parish
Family Initiation Retreat at St Anne in Gorham contact Sr Jackie on how many are attending from your parish.
- † Theology of the Body, St Mary's in Wells. March 27th. \$50. for lunch and is open to all 8th grades and up. Call Susan to register or more information.

CYCCA Meeting Presenters and Topics: March 7th, Clair Andrews -Ministering to Divorced Families, and April 8th is Sr Paula. She is looking for suggestions for a topic or information that what would be helpful for us as a group. Let Larry know your ideas.

Jr. High Gathering – successful, positive response from Jr. High Kids. The Group Servant Song group was too loud and for some, it went too late into the evening. 170 people attended including parents. Broke even, \$42.00 over costs. Suggestions for next time were; having a dance floor and maybe some ice breakers. Yes! We should do it again.

For the April meeting, Larry will get e-mails for cluster parishes an hour from chancery so they may join us at our meetings. A thought was to have a tele-conferencing meeting so other who are live too far away to travel to us, could at least hear the speaker.

Rebecca Hilton – What Makes Love Possible?

Do we prepare for Advent / Christmas and Lent / Easter in the same way?

Advent / Christmas we prepare more outside of the church as well as at home. Lent / Easter are more liturgical preparation, but not so much at home.

Lent - Spring Season, brings home / promise of change (season change = change of heart.)

We focus on reconciliation, changing our ways, love is necessary for reconciliation to happen. Lent is love; it is the season of love.

Before anything, you have to recognize yourself as being loved by God.

Ignation Spiritual Exercises – focus on meditations

Stations of the Cross; focus on our sinfulness + God’s mercy + forgiveness.

Lent is about hope, knowing God’s love for us. Even Haiti, the goodness of those responding to the disaster. Every good thing we aspire to has its source and summit in God.

God’ love reveals itself in abundance. Look around at your life and all the things God has given us, beauty of where we live, the people in our life, etc...

Love redeems, reconciles, restores and renews.

Lent is about redemption, reconciliation, restoration and renewal.

Psalm 139, read regularly – this is the foundation of God’s love for us.

We do not see things as God does – we get glimpses.

Lent make redemption possible because God buys us back (crucifixion).

Look at all the covenants made with God’s people in the Old Testament (Adam, Abraham, Moses and David).

God always initiates and we respond (reconciliation).

Before celebrating the sacrament of reconciliation, read Psalm 139 to prepare you this grace filled time. Remember that God knows my ways, knows my heart and loves me always.

Do not berate yourself – talk to yourself with kindness, patience, and compassion.

Remember God’s forgiveness in scripture

† Prodigal Son

† Lazarus – Jesus Raising him from the dead

† Luke – Jesus’ anointing by the sinful women.

† 1 Corinthians 13 – We read it as a laundry list of what we should do: this reading is about what God does / what his love is like.

Lent is a time of gratitude. Giving up is about sacrifice. It is supposed to be giving up something to live in solidarity with those who do not have. The absence makes us appreciate what we have. Lent is a time to make room for Jesus, by not over scheduling; trying to control everything in our lives.