

**Cumberland/York Counties Coordinators Association
December 10, 2009**

MINUTES

Members in Attendance: Sandra Litcher, Rosanne Smith, Shelly Carpenter, Sr. Jackie Moreau, Rose Cronin Deacon Paul Lissandrello, Larry Guertin, Judy Dominick, Deacon Dennis Popadack, Kathy Williamson, Lisa Champagne, Rosalie Aube, Liz Williams, Edith Forst, Donna Glynn, Elaine Hollywood, Kris Benson, Kathleen Sparda, Ruth Oakley

Welcome: The group was welcomed by Larry Guertin.

Opening Prayer: by Liz Williams which included a very moving Advent/Christmas DVD presentation to Chris Rice's "Welcome to our World." Great interest by PCL's in getting a copy. Liz will burn and mail out to all those interested.

Secretary's Report: October minutes accepted. No November minutes due to Retreat.

Treasurer's Report: Rose handed out a copy of our financial standing (*see attached.*) She brought to our attention the status of CYCCA membership dues. Dues are \$50 annually. Checks should be made payable to the OLLFF. Rose will re-send notices for outstanding dues. Rose reported that the November Retreat was wonderful and that the Franciscan Guest House will give a special price break next year.

Other business:

- Sr. Jackie posed a question regarding the Children's Catechumenate Retreat which will be held during Lent. Who has children this year?
- Kris Benson gave an update on the Junior High Gathering entitled "Walking in Love" which will be held at St. Max's in Scarborough on Friday, January 29, 2010. Kris handed out a Poster for each parish to post. Kris will email information to CYCCA.
- Larry voiced an interest in Summer Youth Camps and asked the groups general opinion about their experiences. Rose offered her parish's practice and offered that the Catholic Heart program was more money.

(Ruth shared that Michael Lavigne was unable to be here today due to family circumstances.)

PowerPoint Presentation for Office of Lifelong Faith Formation: Ruth Oakley

~Best Practices and Future Planning~

- 1. Opinion Poll**
- 2. The "Big Picture"**
- 3. Programs / Strengths**
- 4. Personal Gifts**
- 5. Questions in light of the above**

In light of FUTURE PLANNING, Ruth invited coordinators to help see 'the big picture'

- Influences affecting us today:
 - WYD initiatives of Popes JP II and B16
 - Charisma of JP II- he became a hero
 - Call for increased Adult Education
 - Increased use of technology
 - JP II's forgiveness of his would-be assassin

JPII gave us the Theology of the Body

JPII rekindled interest in Mary

B16's books on Jesus and Mary

B16's stance on relativism

Numerous Encyclicals

(How many have read them? i.e. Christ Our Hope 2007 B16, Splendor of Truth 1993 JPII)

- Group broke down in pairs with question sheet (*see attached*) for input
- Feedback: Coordinators were invited to share programs, strengths, and personal gifts

Highlights:

- Family liturgy mid-week which includes Catechesis: What is the Mass all about?
- Getting the WORD out – extending invitations/evangelizing – definite need for better Public Relations – use public media: free community T.V., local newspapers, etc.
- How do we hold on to families after the Sacraments?
- Spirit of friendship needs to be built to keep families coming – it's all about networking; building relationships.
- “We want them coming not just for their first Communion but for their 500th!”
 - ✓ Step back and look @ the big picture:
 - What am I trying to accomplish?
 - How can I communicate *i.e. the Encyclicals* through...
 - Be mindful: *what, in total* are we trying to communicate?
 - Lent is too busy. Ruth's example (*technique*): while driving:
 - Red light -- radio off; pray “Here I am Lord.”
 - Green light -- radio back on & go.
 - “How is your red light/green light going?”
 - (*Pray*) Lord, help me....
 - Sports: general open discussion amongst group
 - PCL's shared their various way of attempting to counter this challenge
 - Parents need to be empowered to say “no” to Sunday morning games/practices
 - Faith Formation needs to be valued as much as sports are valued
 - Programs – open forum sharing of what is being used, approaches being made to involve educate parents/adults; general sharing of successes – great variety and innovation
- What do you need? / What can the Diocesan OLLFF do for you?
 - List & Contact Info for Inspirational Speakers
 - List of New Resources accompanied with Ruth's review/opinion
“We get so much of that stuff, that it would be such a help to get your opinion.”
- Suggested Reading/ personal ‘testing’:
 - Living Your Strengths – Catholic Version - online indicator to assess 5 strengths (coded & timed)
 - Discover Your God Given Traits – Albert Winseman (Amazon.com \$16.47)
 - NCCL's Keepers of the Promise (*What did parents promise at Baptism?*)
 - On Faith and Reason (Aquinas) (Amazon.com \$13.95) (Lenten resource)

Thank You extended to Ruth for her commitment.

Closing Prayer offered by Larry Guertin