

# Cumberland/York Counties Coordinators Association

## March 11, 2010

### MINUTES

**Members in Attendance:** Edith Forst, Kris Torrey, Grace Tucci-Libby, Donna Lebel, Donna Glynn, Nancy Kellar, Kathy George, Judy Dominick, Rose Cronin, Sandy Litcher, Claire Andrews, Shelly Carpenter, Kathy Williamson, Larry Guertin, Dcn. Paul Lissandrello, Rosalie Aube, Lisa Champagne, Carolyn Houston, Central Office: Robert Wullweber.

**Welcome:** The group was welcomed by Larry Guertin.

**Opening Prayer:** by Kathy Williamson entitled: Love Lost & Found.

**Secretary's Report:** January and February minutes accepted.

**Treasurer's Report:** Rose handed out a copy of our financial standing. During the last month there was \$0 income and \$0 expense.

The **Spring Retreat** prices are the same again this year. The spring Retreat will be at Marie Joseph Spiritual Center **May 4-6, 2010**. Cost: \$140 two nights (Tuesday 7pm – Thursday lunch); \$100 one night (Wednesday after Breakfast – Thursday lunch); \$50 Wednesday only. **Deposit due by March 19**. Only 30 rooms available. Open to the Whole Diocese. Registration forms will be emailed to you by Edith as soon as Michael Lavigne approves the form. All are invited to Buffleheads prior to retreat – self pay. Volunteers are still needed for Wednesday Morning Prayer and Wednesday Closing Prayer. Please contact Rose to volunteer.

- February and March treasurers' reports accepted.

**Central Office Report:** Robert Wullweber

- There are several **RCIA retreats** scheduled – see Diocesan website for dates and locations.
- **Adult Ed Opportunity** for Parish Leaders – CAIM format
  - Four (4) Video Conference Sites: Holy Rosary, Caribou; St. Joseph, Brewer; St. Paul Center, Augusta; Chancery, Portland.
  - Topic: The Catechism of the Catholic Church
  - Objective: Provide an overview/ survey of the faith for PCL's, Adult Leaders in Parishes to serve as a refresher and to go deeper into the topics to assure a well-formed or better-formed Leadership to share with/improve Parish adult faith formation and increase a knowledge and love of our faith.
  - Eight (8) Sessions
    - 6:00 pm "Meet & Greet" with Refreshments
    - 6:30 pm Presentation
  - Dates:
    - **March 23, 2010** – CREED (Ruth Oakley, presenter)
    - May 18, 2010 – CREED
    - September 28, 2010 – SACRAMENTS
    - November 16, 2010 – SACRAMENTS
    - January 11, 2011 – COMMANDMENTS
    - March 22, 2011 – COMMANDMENTS
    - May 17, 2011 – PRAYER
    - June 21 – 2011 – PRAYER
  - Sessions End at 8:00 pm
- **Catholic Youth Convention:** April 9 – 11, 2010 at Sable Oaks, South Portland. 400 registrations to date, total of 450 – 500 possible.
- **Theology of the Body Training:** April 30 – May 1, 2010 at the Franciscan Guesthouse, Kennebunk. Different rates available. FMI contact the OLLFF or check the website.

### Questions:

Will taped sessions be available for those who cannot attend evening sessions?

Answer: We'll check into that, we've had some technical difficulties in the past recording CAIM sessions.

Will the Catechism sessions apply to certification?

Is Echoes in Faith still good for catechist certification?

Answer: Certification is still a work in progress. There will be grandfathering of previous programs. Some will be handled on a case-by-case basis. The Bishop strongly recommends the University of Dayton program.

(open discussion pros/cons of DeSales program, Echoes of Faith, and other programs)

### **Catholic Charities Maine, Parish Social Ministry: Bill Wood**

Parish Inclusion Ministry and Diocesan Ministry –

- ◇ *Welcome & Valued* program (NAMI) Video: mental illness DVD and speaker available, will even help with advertising to bring this to your parish. “1 in 4 persons have a diagnosable mental illness.”
- ◇ Project Rachel: program available to parishes. Just recently a program was presented to teens with guest Sandra Thompson presenting. Her witness was effective and compelling.

### **Ministering to Divorced Families: Claire Andrews**

- ◇ Claire is the PCL in Farmington, an attorney, married for 18 years and the mother of two children ages 9 and 11 and has been working for the Kids First Center in Portland for twelve years.
- ◇ Kids First is a four-hour program designed to help families through the process of divorce, often recommended by lawyers and mental health practitioners and Judges sometimes require this programs participation by parents prior to granting a divorce.
- ◇ Viewed clips from the Movie “Irreconcilable Differences”
  - Parents in crisis, emotionally unavailable to child, placing the child in a position as ‘spy’ and ‘arbiter’ between adults.
  - Child walks away as parents argue after returning home from visit with Dad. Disappearing into her bedroom, child escapes by watching T.V. show showing TV divorced parents asking the child’s forgiveness and then one another’s forgiveness and together they tell the child they are getting re-married. (- an often recurring child’s fantasy).
  - Mother follows her into the room, sitting on bed, asking haranguing questions about ‘Dad’s new woman and gifts he buys her, wallowing in self pity....as the child chides, “Mom, I’m trying to watch T.V.”
- ◇ Adults have the skills to cope with grief/loss from previous life experience whereas kids facing this crisis for the first time don’t know how to deal with it.
- ◇ Parents need to change the relationship from one being an emotional relationship into a business relationship to benefit the child.
- ◇ NDC (National Directory for Catechesis) good resource.
- ◇ Open Q & A about how we as PCL’s address/support divorced families
  - Shared Communications – duplicates to custodial and non-custodial parent
  - Registration Forms list information for both parents – phone call to non-custodial parent.
  - Providing missing lessons.
  - Always making the child welcome; not singled out.
  - Providing a weekday alternative to Sunday classes so children of divorce don’t feel ‘different.’
  - Never make the child the ‘information carrier’ as the *sole* method of communication.
- ◇ Other Resources:
  - **Divorce Care** – 13 wk Video & Discussion program – for those who may not be divorced yet but in a state of shock – check Diocesan website for local programs
  - **Divorce & Beyond** – for those who are divorce and ready to share. 250 people have already participating in this program. A healthy adult contributes to a healthy child.
    - Intake form used to determine “good fit”
    - For those of all/no faith backgrounds
  - **Connected Catholics of Maine** – for Divorced, Widowed: Retreat at MJSC – May 1
  - HANDOUT: Green form listing resources
  - Any questions/concerns call Bill Wood 1-800-CARE-002 (Maine only) or (207) 871-7464 ext. 2672
- ◇ Viewed Bishop’s message on divorce.
  - (DVD) available to Parishes – excellent for use during/end of Sunday Mass. For copies contact Bill Wood.
- ◇ Discussion:
- ◇ ? Cannot receive communion – well meaning, mis-informed ‘sweet old ladies’ – “Dear, you are divorced, you cannot receive Communion.”

- ◇ Can divorced Catholics always ‘come home’?
- ◇ Parishes need a Divorce & Annulment Resource Person. “Perhaps we can look at numbers 5 & 6 under the Six Tasks of Catechesis – “How do we live out this call? Tasks 1-4 are pretty straightforward...and are tasks which we may address in our day to day work as Catechetical Leaders. But what about 5 & 6? How do we handle these tasks, particularly with regard to our families who have suffered from the pain of separation and divorce or who are in the midst of such a crisis? What type of pastoral care can we provide?”
- ◇ Adult Ed comes under Religious Ed
  - ref: Familiaris Consortio #84 Pope John Paul II on Divorce & Separated
  - NDC “Catechesis & Special Situations”
  - Conclusion: “What does that person coming through the door need to hear?”
- ◇ Recommendation: Purchase pamphlet “**What the Church Teaches: ANNULMENTS**” available from [www.osv.com](http://www.osv.com) packages of 50 for \$14.95 ISBN: 978-1-59276-060-2 and place these where people gather in your parish.
- ◇ **Care Notes:** Healing through Divorce
- ◇ How do we handle those Divorced and not annulled who present a child for Baptism? Some come through looking for a ‘car wash and insurance policy’ Baptism.
- ◇ Handouts:
  - **Kids First** Center pamphlet with dates/places of upcoming programs
  - What the Church teaches: Annulments
  - Blue Sheet: Six Tasks of Catechesis
  - Green Sheet: Resources for Divorced and Separated Catholics (websites & programs)

#### Other business:

- Program on **Catholic Spirituality** with Barbara Smith, presenter.  
FMI call Rose Cronin at 337-0637 or email [JCRONIN2@Maine.RR.Org](mailto:JCRONIN2@Maine.RR.Org).
- **Steve Pokorny** a nationally known presenter of **Theology of the Body** to teens will be the speaker at a Lenten retreat for teens on Saturday, **March 27<sup>th</sup>** from 10 am until 4 pm at St. Mary’s Church in Wells. The cost is \$5, and lunch is provided. Please RSVP by March 24<sup>th</sup> to Carolyn Houston at 646-5605 or email at [churchlady5605@yahoo.com](mailto:churchlady5605@yahoo.com), or Rosanne Smith at [985-6252](tel:985-6252) or email at [stmartha@zwi.net](mailto:stmartha@zwi.net).

#### “TO GOD BE THE GLORY” St. Christopher’s Church, York Harbor –

- ◇ 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Musical presentation of the life of Jesus featuring an all-amateur, ecumenical group of talented singers, musicians and actors. “a powerful presentation you don’t want to miss”  
– FREE ADMISSION, donations welcome

#### Dates:

Thursday, **March 18** at 6:30 pm

(5:30 ‘free’ Pizza supper, bring along items to supplement the pizza – great Teens night!)

Friday, **March 19** at 6:30 pm

Saturday, **March 20** at 6:30 pm

Sunday, **March 21** at 5:30 pm

- Handout: **Seder Meal** at St. Anne’s Church, Gorham, Wednesday, March 31 6 – 8 pm  
FMI contact Sr. Jackie or the office at 839-4857. Deadline to purchase tickets: March 20

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 am.

Respectfully submitted by: Edith Forst