

**St. John the Baptist
Faith Formation Commission Minutes
March 16, 2016
6:35 PM in Room 201**

Members Present: Michelle S., Marcia S., Stephanie W., and Jackie S.

Members Absent: Tom P., Leslie B., and Suzanne V.

Rob J. joined us for our meeting as a possible future member of the commission.

Pat R. from the PLC also joined our meeting.

Bryce E. was also a guest at our meeting.

Staff Representative: Jessica B. **Recorder:** Jean R.

Bryce E. opened the meeting with prayer. We read the Parish Mission Statement and the Faith Formation Mission Statement as a group.

Minutes from the February 17, 2016 meeting were approved.

The members had a discussion of chapter seven of "Love is our Mission". We went through the questions at the end of the chapter. The chapter was titled "Light in a Dark World". Leslie B. will lead the discussion of chapter eight next month. We decided to put this discussion at the end of our agenda for future meetings, so that Marcia S. (PLC rep) hears all of the business before leaving for the PLC meeting. However, Jessica couldn't join us until 7, so she asked us to start the meeting with this discussion.

A few items came out of this month's discussion:

- Is it possible to put a list of couples from St. John's who use NFP and are will to share their experiences with others?
- Does SJB marriage prep have resources that are given to the couples?
- What is the Church's stance on help with infertility and is this information communicated to couples in marriage prep as well as the general population of the parish?

Agenda Items:

1. Program Reports
 - a. Jessica shared reports from Sunday School, Elementary Formation and Youth Ministry. The parish administrator's report was also shared with the commission.
 - i. Upcoming events:
 1. Easter Egg Hunt – March 26
 2. Easter Vigil reception – March 26 after Mass
 3. Hospitality in May – will email members possible dates that are open
2. Marcia S. reported back from last month's PLC. Major topics that are being discussed are
 - a. Bell tower crack
 - b. School has leaks in the heating system
 - c. Telephone system is failing
 - d. Sunday giving is down
 - e. St. Vincent de Paul may do a second food drive
 - f. Hospitality volunteers are needed

3. Jessica asked the member to pray for the RCIA catechumen and candidates, especially during this last week before their full entrance into the Catholic Church. Some of them are experiencing health and other issues that are keeping them distracted.
4. Set up for the Easter Vigil reception begins at 10am on March 26 in St. Joseph's Hall. If any members are able to help, they are welcome to come and do so.
5. Commission Membership
 - a. Marcia will be done in June. Jackie and Suzanne have the option to come back for another term if they would like to.
 - i. We currently have two open spots, so we will need to find up to five new members.
6. Rob J. gave us an update on the Catholic Watchmen Conference. Men are the spiritual leaders of the home. If a faithful father is involved, there is a 93% chance that the children will stay faithful into college. If it is just the mother, that drops down into the 70% range. It will fall drastically further if neither parent is spiritually involved. There are seven commitments that the Watchmen will make and there will be videos available online of the talks presented at the conference. Each parish has the goal of having 10-12 men lead this initiative with a minimum of a monthly meeting. Men were encouraged to take the midnight hour of adoration. It should be marketed to all the men of the parish.
7. Couples for Christ
 - a. It is a 10 week formation program using small groups. The couples will learn about Jesus, the Holy Spirit and Christian life. After the 10 week course, they will be asked to join Couples for Christ and agree to:
 - i. Meet 2x/month in homes to pray
 - ii. Meet 1x/month for a formation night
 - iii. Meet 1x/month for a diocesan wide assembly
 - iv. They must also commit to be active members of their home parish
 - b. It is very charismatic which may not appeal to a majority of St. John's members.
 - c. The commission was asked if they thought this would work at SJB and if so, Father would like us to recommend that it be given the go ahead.
 - i. We decided that we would pray on it and make a decision at the April meeting.
8. Confirmation Update
 - a. The proposal is to move the 8th graders to Sunday night. It is also proposed that 9th grade service hours are connected to the 5:30 Ignite Mass. They will be asked to be servers, lectors, etc.
9. Youth Ministry fundraising update
 - a. Youth365 will kick off the weekend of April 9/10
10. Pastor's Tasks – tabled until the April meeting
 - a. We are waiting to hear if our recommendations for Adoration will be sent back to us for action.
11. We would like to ask the PLC if confirmed youth can serve on the commissions.
12. Mission Statement
 - a. We will keep this on our agenda as direction comes from Father. We would like to see it include something about forming the youth of our parish.

Marcia and Pat left at 7:35 for the PLC meeting.

Jessica B. ended our meeting with prayer.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Action items for our future meetings:

- New Member recruitment

Prayer Assignments for our next meeting – April 20, 2016

- Opening prayer – Michelle S.
- Closing prayer – Jessica B.