**Parish Transformation**

**Session 1**

**Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Date: Wednesday, March 2, 2016

Steering Committee met with Maureen Williams and Fr. Frank to discuss the role of the Steering Committee

* The main role of the committee is to facilitate communication within and between the small groups that comprise the Parish Transformation Team.
* This committee will have the same receive the same information as the whole team.
* Members 🡪 Rob Harmer, Lisa Hanzelka, Adam Hock and Jackie Koesters

Fr. Frank gave an opening prayer and brief introduction to the Parish Transformation Process at St. Teresa of Avila Parish.

Everyone at the meeting introduced themselves and talked about why they chose St. Teresa of Avila as their parish.

Maureen Williams gave an overview and brief history of the Parish Transformation process.

* Two videos were shown:
  + Fr. Ron Lewinski – creator of the process
  + Archbishop Cupich
* All parishes in the Archdiocese of Chicago will go through this process
* Started in October of 2011 and approximately 120 parishes have already completed the process
* The Parish Transformation process:
  + Renewing our **commitment to the Mission of Christ as the Church’s vocation**
  + Making our parishes stronger, more effective, holier, welcoming and responsive to the needs in contemporary society
  + Forming Missionary Disciples
  + Establishing a **strong financial base to accomplish the mission**
* Mission Narrative 🡪 Who we are (as a parish) and where we are called to go
* A critical task is implementation of the key items identified during the Parish Transformation process
* We will talk about how to share the survey data with the entire parish at upcoming meetings
* St. Josephat’s has gone through the process and they used Shutterfly for their calendar and meeting reminders. We may want to talk to Christine at St. Josephat’s to find out how they used Shutterfly.
* St. Ben’s, St. Josephat’s and St. Alphonsus’ parishes have already completed the process and would be good candidates to talk with

Steering Committee gave an overview of who we are as St. Teresa of Avila Parish

* Lisa Hanzelka 🡪 History of St. Teresa of Avila Parish
* Rob Harmer 🡪 Ministries at the parish
* Jackie Koesters 🡪 Demographics of the parish and neighborhood
* Fr. Frank 🡪 Update on the financials
  + Weekend offertory funds 62% of the operations budget, the other 38% is from holiday collections, TOYL and other fund raisers
  + 6% of weekend offertory will go outside the parish to help other charities

General Discussion after the Steering Committee’s presentation

* Hospitality is an important part of the parish life
  + Focus on meeting new people
  + More after the 6 pm Mass would be great
  + If you are new to the parish, hospitality can be intimidating because everyone else knows each other

Maureen led a discussion on the Hopes and Concerns of the team.

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| **Concerns** | **Hopes** |
| Are we doing enough with transitioning our children from CGS to middle school, teenage, and young adult groups? | This process will allow us to involve more parishioners. |
| Are we creating the next generation of parishioners? | With the improved involvement of more parishioners, we will create a more sustainable parish. |
| Who will replacement Fr. Frank? | We will have a stronger community that will be able to sustain changing leadership. |
| Can we maintain that ‘personal touch’ while the community grows? | We will continue an upward trajectory in growth of the parish. |
| We are surrounded by big parishes, what does this mean for St. Teresa of Avila Parish? | We will satisfy a niche in the community that no one else does |
|  | We will become a model parish community for other parishes to learn from. |
|  | Our parish will be more rooted in tradition and teachings of the faith. |
|  | We will be a third millennium type of parish. |
|  | We will have a high percentage of involvement. We may be small, but a lot of people are involved. |
|  | We will create satellite communities to reach out beyond our parish. |
|  | Our Masses will be fuller providing the opportunity to reach more people. |

Maureen gave the team homework.

* Over the next week, think about what you believe are the parish’s Pearls of Great Price
  + What do I value most about our parish?
  + What positive feedback do I hear about our parish from visitors or neighbors?
* Ask others what they believe to be the parish’s Pearls of Great Price

Next Steps

* Offer your prayerful support
* Read and reflect upon pages 6-33 of the Mission Workbook in preparation for our next meeting
* Think about the St Teresa of Avila’s Pearls of Great Price and come ready to discuss them next week
* Come to the next Parish Transformation meeting:

Next Meeting 🡪 Wednesday, March 9th, 7 to 9 pm in the Parish Center