

Minutes of the October 6, 2005 Stewardship Meeting

Attendees: Fr. Bova Conti, Sheila Leonard, Ursula Lyons, Jim McCarthy, Bert Sellier and Deacon John Nicholson

E-Mail Sunday: Approximately 800 electronic newsletters created by Parish Growth Partners are being sent out by e-mail and 200 hard copies by regular mail. There are 1500 families in the parish. Assuming that PGP is sending some newsletters to multiple family members, we are not yet reaching the entire registered population. Discussed having an e-mail sign-up drive during each Mass on the first Sunday in November and December. The goal is to obtain an e-mail address for each family member. We need to have greeters at each Mass to hand out sign up cards as parishioners enter the church, and people to collect them at the end of each Mass.

We also discussed using e-mail as an ongoing means of communicating within the parish to broad or select groups of people. Tom Biggins has been contacted and is looking into what would be involved for us to set up a "list server" that would enable us to broadcast information to the parish.

Web Site: We discussed the need to continue adding timely content to the OLF web site. Specifically:

- Add more ministries to the site
- Incorporate photos of council, commission and ministry chairs/members
- A new site is needed for the Fatima Youth Ministry. Jim McCarthy has offered to help with content. Suggested that this be brought before the Youth Commission to see if web experience exists there that could facilitate.
- Suggested that a monthly letter from Fr. Bova Conti be placed on the site each month. This would fill a void that was created when we eliminated monthly parish newsletters.
- Need a mechanism to obtain information on the number of visitors to our web site. Tom Biggins has incorporated this into the site and the number of visitors per page is available by month. This should help us get an idea of the high value pages.

Bulletin: It was mentioned that there is not always room in the bulletin for all announcements. Additional information can be added that would appear in the online version of the bulletin. We need to bring this to the attention of the parish staff.

Additional Communication: Commission members felt there is a need at the local level to have more communication to counteract all of the negative publicity that's seems to be surrounding our church in Boston. We as a Commission need to reconnect with all ministries in the parish with the following goals:

- Update Ministry Directory information
- Gather information the ministry would like to have on the parish web site

- Ask if the Ministry would like to be spotlighted after all of the Masses on a particular weekend.
- Offer to have a Commission member attend a meeting

The ministry Liaison listing has been updated so that Stewardship Commission members can contact ministries. At the next Stewardship meeting we will also discuss how we can make the ministries feel more connected.

Church Refurbishment: Parishioners are pleased with the refurbishment of the church. It was suggested that the detail of the expenditures be publicized so that there is a greater appreciation of the investment that has been made and how valuable parishioner contributions have been to this project.

New Members: The Stewardship Commission could benefit from the addition of several new members. Are there people that come to mind that we could invite to join? Please offer suggestions.

The next Stewardship meeting will be on Thursday November 3 at 7:30 PM