

**St. Catherine of Genoa
Stewardship Commission Meeting
January 12, 2010**

Those present included Fr. Tim Seigel, Jill Hansen, Linda Dolder, Donna Letterer and Beth Gehringer.

Father led us in a prayer service for the day.

We discussed the article “Go and Make Disciples: A National Plan and Strategy for Catholic Evangelization in the U.S” – Paragraphs 80-88 and the questions that followed. Our parish is making an effort toward evangelization in the goals that were established by parish leadership last Sunday. This is the last part of the “National Plan” we will be studying. Because there are new stewardship commission members we decided to study the “U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops: Stewardship-A Disciple’s Response” pastoral letter again. A few of the stewardship commission members still have the book that was studied in 2006. Our first assignment for next month is to read the preface and chapter one.

Treasure Follow-up mailing

A letter will go out in a couple of days to those who haven’t made a treasure pledge. This letter will clarify that the treasure pledge is for the weekly offertory. We wanted to wait until after the holidays to send out a follow up. Last year when we sent the treasure follow-up letter we included a self-addressed stamped return envelope. An extra \$20,000 in pledges were received as a result of the follow-up letter. The stamps for the return envelopes were \$132.00. Because of last year’s success, we’ll again include a self-addressed stamped return envelope with the letter.

Monthly Tithe

The January tithe to the Fox Valley Older Adult Service Agency will assist those in DeKalb and Sandwich. The “Fox Valley” in the title of this organization is misleading. Heather Edwards did a wonderful job speaking about both the Genoa-Kingston and Kirkland food pantries at mass recently.

St. Mary’s in Aurora

Jill called St. Mary’s this week to make arrangements to get together. Fr. Piasecki is on vacation and his secretary will begin thinking of ways in which we can join forces with them. She mentioned them hosting a pancake breakfast and inviting us to help serve the meal. We do want to meet with St. Mary’s leadership (Stewardship Commission, etc.) and discuss ideas. We could also try to incorporate youth activities in our discussions.

Evangelization Assignment

The stewardship Commission is charged with developing youth ministry for the parish. We discussed a number of ideas that may help get a youth program established. Alaisa Emmens made a good point at the leadership meeting that our parish must become a youth friendly parish. We must let the youth of the parish know they have an important and vital role in our parishes’ life. We have to do more than just establish a youth program. We want to be sure our youth ministry includes a change in attitude throughout the parish and establish a foundation to grow with. We want to encourage kids while they are young so they’ll be more involved as they get older. It may help to find younger adults to be part of this process so the youth will be more likely drawn to becoming involved.

Linda and Beth will meet to begin gathering ideas. Linda’s sister Leann Dunlap is also interested in helping get organized. Linda, Beth and Leann will coordinate a date with Alaisa to visit the confirmation class looking for feedback and ideas for a youth program. Linda and Beth will report back at the next meeting on the progress of this effort.

Several youth activities the commission members have been involved in/aware of were the Kiros retreats at St. Pat's in St. Charles, the Genoa Methodist Church's youth ministry program and hosting fun activities (Wii Bowling, LAN parties). We believe we should start a youth program with the confirmation age students first and then branch out in the younger ages.

Linda shared a meditation with the group.

Father closed with a prayer.

The next meeting is February 27, 2010 at 10:30 a.m.

Submitted by
Beth Gehringer, Secretary