

Road to Renewal and Faith Formation

We are on the Road to Renewal even though we are waiting for more Diocesan Guidelines on organizational structure. The **Faith Formation Committee** (FFC) has been meeting for several months. We are exploring each other's assets and needs, discussing what has been working and what needs work, and sharing whenever possible. Initial efforts include monthly adult movie nights (see flyers,) quarterly Intergenerational Faith Formation (sign-up to plan for our session around Pentecost,) and Confirmation (11/7 10 AM at BT.) FFC also sponsored a Friendship Supper for some of the leaders of our four parishes to have fun and get to know each other. We had a wonderful time at C-B. Look for upcoming Game Nights (board games, a friendly Family Feud, corn hole toss and a few surprises) in the works for after Christmas. We agreed to share orders for Advent booklets. The first Intergenerational Faith Formation event of the four parish series was held on October 19 at STL with a pretty good showing from BT. The next event is in December at C-B. Another presentation from Barbara Shanahan is in the works for December. Each of us continues to struggle to remember to consult with the others on the sharing piece - it will be a learning curve for sure.

A **Road to Renewal** group began meeting to discuss a framework from which our plans will come using, as Fr. Bob mentioned in the bulletin, *Fratelli tutti*, a letter from Pope Francis on friendship and the common good. (Our representatives at that meeting were Fr. Bob, Palma Zanghi, Bob Hecklen, Luis Clay and myself.) From that group a subgroup has been assigned the short term task of coming up with a consistent presentation for the four parishes on the reasons, premise and process as well as the difficulties of the Road to Renewal as we gleaned from the Fatima presentation. The group consists of those representatives who went to the Mass at Fatima from the parishes. They will meet next week (in person and via Zoom) to develop this plan to present to the parishes. It is hoped that a positive presentation will be developed. (BT representatives for this part of the process are Colleen Schroeder and myself.) Our next meeting is in November to further discuss our framework and to review the plans developed by the Fatima Representatives.

Luis suggested a joint "events" calendar for open events. We have been playing with that and hope that it will be available on the Family's websites soon. This was a simple, but game changing idea and we all agreed (FFC) that it was long overdue.

I hope that you have noticed the signs at the doors of the church announcing the week's upcoming events. If these are helpful, we will look to create more durable A-Frames (we now have them sized appropriately on the tables at the entrances.) The "notice" will be on our home page and in our bulletin for consistency, ease of locating the information and shorter announcements.

Visiting BINGO every week has been good. I have come to know many of those playing and their stories. I have had the opportunity to celebrate long awaited pregnancies, to pray with those who are awaiting surgery or diagnoses. For the most part, they are our neighbors and they bring not only money but a need to be a part of a family. Know that I invite them to join us if they are not already part of a worship community. I get prayer requests almost every week.

Patricia Dyer

