

ST. KATERI EVANGELIZATION NOTES TO PARISH COUNCIL – February 2016

“... Beloved, clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, patience... and forgive one another as Christ has forgiven you.... Above all, put on love which binds all together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.” Colossians 3:12-17

- **“RECONCILIATION and RENEWAL”** WEEKEND – Feb 5th and 6th 2016 at SC
The theme was “Be Not Afraid... Trust in God’s Mercy”. 49 people attended this retreat weekend, which included very inspiring talks by 6 speakers; time for discussion, prayer, reconciliation; and fellowship over wonderful meals! The presence of Holy Spirit was definitely felt, as witnessed by sharing “God-moments” at the closing Mass, where Fr Paul was the celebrant. Some had not been to church, or to reconciliation, in a very long time and some said this was the first time they really felt “connected” to church, and/ or felt their burdens lifted. Thanks be to God, and also many thanks to all who helped with all aspects of the weekend - This was the body of Christ working together! It was a huge blessing to have bingo cancelled, which made SC the ideal facility for the “R and R” weekend.
- **NEW PARISHIONERS’ ORIENTATION** - Last one was held at SMM on Feb 7th; next one will be at SC on Sunday April 3rd at 11:30 AM. Any available Parish council members are encouraged to attend, and get to know those new to the parish family! Many thanks to all involved with the process, from making phone calls, to mailing letters of invitation, and being there to welcome those who come to the orientations. Along with this “welcoming”, is the desire to encourage the baptism ministry in their role with young families, and to see if there are ways to help with follow-up during the following year after a child is baptized. Likewise, a similar follow-up to all the sacraments is desired... maybe collaborate with the “pre-cana” team, as well as faith formation, to see how best to help with follow-up? TBD
- **WELCOME CENTERS** – good news that the PC has approved the proposal, and we continue to wait and pray for the next steps of this visible form of welcome, outreach, and evangelization for St. Kateri parish! In conjunction with the church entrances being “refreshed”, the welcome centers will be timely. Also the welcome packets will be updated by summer, and other forms of communication will be looked at in collaboration with Donna Walker.
- **“WOMEN WEAVING THE WORD”** – Saturday March 19th, 1:00- 4:00 PM at SC NFC
ALL women are warmly invited to attend this afternoon of Scripture reflection; tea and scones, and optional crafts. Young women are especially encouraged to invite their moms, sisters, aunts, grandmas to this “Ladies Lenten day”! The theme is “The Joy of Mercy”; there will be a speaker from the Willow Center, which ministers to women and children, and all victims of domestic abuse. Please see the bulletin for details.

Peace in Christ, Kyra Niklewicz