

St. John Vianney Stewardship Committee Meeting February 15, 2010

In Attendance: Bob Ranus, Robert Scott, Kathy Uy, Barb Hetzel, Brad Niswonger, Bob Wallis, Fr. Phillip, Julie Dreyer, Mike Cekanor, Nancy Nelson, Kurt Bauman, Amy Abplanalp

Excused: Mike Buelow, Jean Beaudoin, Jim Hessling

After an opening prayer service in church, the meeting began.

Current Financial Stewardship

As of February 7, we are \$82,780 below budget and \$56,845 (or 4%) down from last year in contributions. Much analysis has occurred (thank you Jim Hessling) and the Stewardship Committee also met separately on 2/4/10 to analyze causes. Findings include:

1. High uncertainty from poor economy, high unemployment, etc
2. There is a direct negative impact of FIOF on regular stewardship, in both contributions and pledges. (People who are not giving to FIOF have actually increased their pledges vs. '09 contributions). Other quad parishes also confirmed the same effect FIOF has on their stewardship contributions.
3. The importance of ministry involvement should be noted as there is a positive correlation between ministry involvement and stewardship contributions.

Even though stewardship contributions are down 4% from last year, based on trends, SJV parishioners are actually giving more dollars when FIOF contributions are added in – the giving is just spread into different buckets. We should **thank the parish** for their generosity, esp. in such difficult times.

4. Given this background, the Stewardship budget number will not be as high as last year, more likely falling to ~\$2.1 million for the year.

Stewardship Campaign Pledges

As of February 2nd, there were 1,199 commitments totaling \$1,590,340 (compared to an ending tally for 2009 of 1,360 commitments totaling \$1,787,141). Because we were still short of commitments, one last reminder from the pulpit was made at all Masses on Feb 20/21st (with commitment cards in the pews). A reminder was also included in the bulletin and in the inaugural e-Bulletin, sent to all parishioners on Feb 19th. With that last push, as of February 22nd, there are now 1,261 commitments totaling \$1,616,895 (looking a little better).

Ministry eBulletin

In an effort to communicate and engage parishioners in ministries, a six week pilot email communication, sent throughout Lent, kicked off with the first issue on Feb 19th. A big thank you to Kathy Uy who organized, created, and executed the idea! Parishioners can

explore different ministries and upcoming parish events that are highlighted each week. At the end of the six week period, we will solicit feedback to see if this is something parishioners would like to continue.

Planned Giving

Barb Hetzel and Brad Niswonger will again co-ordinate the Fr. Lipscomb Society dinner in the Spring. More details to report at our next meeting.

New Business

1. Volunteers were solicited to attend the March 2nd strategic planning brainstorming session: Nancy, Kathy, Amy, Brad, Julie (and anyone else who is so moved)
2. Assignments were made to represent Stewardship Committee during the March 14th Masses

Next meeting: Monday, April 12, 2010 at 6:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Dreyer