

Renewing the Church in Manville

Discernment Team Meeting April 23, 2012

Attendees: Fr. Stan Slaby, C.Ss.R (Pastor of CTK and SH), Msgr. Joe Celano (Episcopal Vicar of Somerset County), Deacon Tom Giacobbe (CTK), Deacon Bill Stefany (SH), Kathy Tartaglione (CTK), Stanley Jasinski (SH), Dolores Finlan (CTK), Joseph Ketusky (SH), Angelo Corradino (CTK), Lucy Jaime (SH), Philip Strollo (CTK), Joseph Gazo (SH), Mark Peltack (SH,) Jeff Korgen (Exec. Dir. Dept of Diocesan Planning), Kristen Silowka (Exec. Asst. Dept of Diocesan Planning).

Reflection of the Scripture (1 Peter 5:5-14): In Msgr. Joe Celano's reflection of the scripture reading, what stood out most to him was the mention of humility. To him, humility is the ability to stand in truth before God. We are all nothing and we are all everything before God. That is what it is to be humble and that is what we are called to be. Jeff Korgen asked that we take Msgr. Celano's example of Christian humility and use it to discern what is best for the church of Manville, using the Christian Family Movement model of "Observe, Judge, Act"

Parish Demographic Presentation :

Q – When was the last parish census done?

A – Sacred Heart was in 2006. Fr. Stan was not sure of the exact date of Christ the King, but Fr. Sloan made sure all records were up-to-date. Right now, if envelopes are not being used at either parish, letters are sent to see if they are still parishioners. If there is no response they are marked "inactive".

Fr. Stan handed out Christ the King school enrollment since 1996. This will be incorporated in the slides before publishing them to the web.

Discussion: What was the most interesting information to you?

- *If you have less than 1 on the Baptism:Funeral ratio chart that meant you had more Funerals than Baptisms.*
- *I see more nationalities coming into town with young children.*
- *In 2003-2004 mass attendance at Sacred Heart had a radical decline. Fr. Stan noted that at that time Poland joined the European Union and people were allowed to work in other countries in Europe. Many people went to work in England and other European countries to be closer to home. The rebound was more likely due to new people moving into the area.*

Community Demographic Presentation:

Q – Where did the population numbers come from because that is not the population of Manville?

A – The boundary drawn is that of Christ the King parish, not Manville. It includes some of Hillsborough as well.

Q – Jeff asked if the group thought that there seemed to be an opportunity for growth among the Hispanic/Latino population. If there is we can bring in Fr. Ron or Fr. Jim from the Diocesan Office of Hispanic Ministry to talk to the group. Right now Christ the King is ranked 35th in the Diocese for number of Hispanic/Latinos.

Q – Msgr. Celano noted that the demographics show married with children and single parent, but what about people cohabitating with children? At this time, that is not a question on the census. Maybe that is something for the future.

Request from a group of Christ the King parishioners: Fr. Stan mentioned that there is a group of Christ the King parishioners that would like to meet with the Renewing the Church in Manville Delegation to voice their concerns about the process. All agreed that the interested parties should put their concerns in writing. We will dedicate a portion of the next meeting to review the concerns and discuss. Then there will be a meeting, facilitated by Msgr. Celano, consisting of 3 representatives from each group to discuss the concerns and how they will be addressed. As for the progress of Renewing the Church in Manville, any parishioner can follow what is going on at the meetings by reading the minutes and reviewing the documentation posted on the Diocesan, Christ the King and Sacred Heart websites.

The next meeting will be Monday, May 21, 2012. We will meet at the parish offices at 7:30pm. We will review the facilities reports with Monica Demkovitz. The Risk Audits will move to the June meeting with Finance.

Fr. Stan noted that he will be away for the next meeting, but Fr. Slavek will attend in his place.