

Attendees: Sal Bonfiglio, Dorothy DeLuca, Trudy Madden, Carl Snipes, Jake Miller, Karen Leyendecker, John Leyendecker, Francisco Marin, Michelle Marin

1. Opening Prayer – Carl Snipes

*Generous God, You provide for the lilies of the field and the birds in the air. You promise to take care of us even when our faith is small. Bless us as we examine the use of Your gifts and seek to use them fairly, honestly and prudently to better our community. During this meeting help us to remember that we are doing Your work, not our own. May we see this meeting as a way of serving You. May all that we do and all that we are give You praise and be for Your honor and glory. We ask this in Your Name and through Your Son our Lord and Savior – Jesus Christ – Amen.*

2. 4H-Fair

- Went well, Carl did not feel it was as well attended on Friday, but did not yet have the numbers. Dorothy felt Thursday from 6-9 was well attended, 4-6 was less so, and 9-10 was quiet.
- The dvd player did not work so well since the screen was too small.
- Jake said the Youth Group would be happy to make rocks painted with pro-life symbols and messages to weigh papers down.

3. Sept 29/30 – Respect Life Tables in the Narthax

**NOTES:**

- Phil suggested that Fr. Sean speak about the ministry at the Masses he will be at, if he agrees, we will not need speakers at those Masses
- Phil and Dorothy will set up the table after Saturday morning Mass
- Phil will be receiving 300 postcards that we will have at the table
  - Topic is Support the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act A1686/S537
  - It was suggested that we mention the postcards during our talk at the end of Mass
  - It was also suggested that we look for an electronic method of contacting our senators and assemblymen and provide a link for that on the MMOG Website – **UPDATE – I cannot find a site with an action alert for this bill.**
- We need sign up sheets for Life Chain, **UPDATE: I have sign up sheets for both Life Chain and to join Respect Life ministry**
- Phil will submit announcement for weekend of Oct 6/7 – reminder to attend Life Chain
- Karen, John and Jake will ask Youth Group members to join in Life Chain
- Carl said we can use the fetal models, we did not discuss how to handle them. They should be locked in the Sacristy prior to manning the table at 5PM Mass and after finishing up with the table after the 6:30PM Mass. **Should we lock them away during Mass, or should we try to have someone at the tables during each Mass? – UPDATE, we will have someone man the tables during each Mass**
- **We did not discuss who should write the talk, any suggestions? UPDATE – Fr Sean is preparing the talk, Philomena provided input**

**MASSES:**

**Both Carl and Jake mentioned they could be available to man the table throughout the day**

- **5PM Mass** – Sal will speak, Trudy will man the table before and after Mass – **UPDATE: Fr. Sean is speaking at all Masses, Carl will set up the fetal models and will man the table before and during the 5PM Mass. Mai and Bill will take over from Carl.**

- **6:30PM Mass** – Francisco will speak, Francisco and Michelle will man the table. The Hispanic community will be having a ministry fair, so it will be up to Francisco and Michelle as to whether they want to move items from the table in the Narthax to a table in Schellburg, or not. **UPDATE: Mai and Bill will man the table before and during the 6:30 Mass, Francisco will take over and will lock up the fetal models in the sacristy when done. Not sure if Francisco or Fr Sean will speak.**
- **7:30AM Mass** – **Need a speaker, need to confirm that Bern and Angie can man the table before and after Mass** – **UPDATE** – Fr. Sean is speaking at all Masses, Dorothy will set up the fetal models and will man the table before and during the 7:30 Mass. Bern and Angie will take over from Dorothy.
- **9AM Mass** – Karen Leyendecker will speak, Karen and John will man the table before and after – **UPDATE: Fr. Sean is speaking at all Masses, Bern and Angie will man the table before and during the 9AM Mass. Roseann Mertes will take over from Bern and Angie.**
- **10:30AM Mass** – **confirm if Phil will speak, confirm if Karen and John can stay until 10:30 Mass starts**, Carl and Marianne will cover the tables after 10:30 and before 12N Mass – **UPDATE: Fr. Sean is speaking at all Masses, Roseann Mertes will man the table before and during the 10:30 Mass. Philomena and Carl will take over from Roseann.**
- **12N Mass** – **confirm if Marianne will speak**, Marianne will cover the tables before and after 12N. **Carl if you could stay for this, and you did offer 😊, you could pack up the fetal models when done. Is this ok?** – **UPDATE: Fr. Sean is speaking at all Masses, Philomena and Carl will man the table before and during the 12N Mass. Carl will put away the fetal models.**

#### **TOPICS to cover for the talk:**

- The postcard campaign
  - Mention that we have postcards on the table, but that you can also make your voice heard online by going to our MMOG website and following the link there. (If NJRTL creates one)
- Life Chain
  - need to mention it is a silent and prayerful event
  - Karen will put together some images
  - John will put the powerpoint slides together
  - A/V will show this during the talk each Mass
- Our mission – from our website  
*The Mary Mother of God Respect Life Ministry spreads the word that we must cherish and uphold the sanctity of life from the moment of conception to natural death.*

*The Mass and the Eucharist, along with the consecration to and intercession of Mary, our Blessed Mother, and of her spouse Joseph, provides witness to God's truth and embody our Lord's command to love one another as He loves us.*

*The Ministry is a way to provide leadership, encouragement, and active participation, utilizing the support of the Diocese of Metuchen's resources in Spirituality, Education, Outreach, Public Policy and Prayer.*
- We should mention that as a ministry we address the topics of chastity, abstinence, natural family planning, pregnancy aid, post abortion healing, suicide, caregiving, and end of life issues.
 

**NOTE:** Thanks to Karen for bringing up NFP, I did add a link for info on it to the Pregnancy Issues section of our website. – I was thinking this might be a good topic to invite a speaker for.
- Mention the coast-to-coast rosary unless Father is planning on mentioning it at each Mass.
- That there will be people in the Gathering Space who would be happy to discuss our ministry

4. Coast to Coast Rosary
  - We should set up for the Holy Hour after the 12N Mass
    - Set up candelabras
    - Set up Monstrance
    - Move Host to the Church tabernacle
  - John will meet with Fr. Sean to discuss what Fr wants from A/V for the Holy Hour
  - John plans to stream the event
  - Carl will let Brookdale residents know they can participate in the coast to coast rosary and Holy Hour
5. SCRTL/NJRTL – Carl Snipes
  - Carl mentioned the following upcoming events:
    - The car raffle will be Nov 16<sup>th</sup>, not sure when we will be selling tickets yet. Carl will get back to us on that
    - Critical Life Issues Conference, October 20<sup>th</sup>
    - The January March in Washington will be on the 18<sup>th</sup>
6. Diocesan Meetings and Legislative Issues – Marianne Khare
  - Marianne mentioned the following two events:
    - **Wednesday, September 26, 2018**  
**HUMANAE VITAE: ITS PROPHETIC CHALLENGE FOR TODAY**  
 Presented by Rev. Anthony Mastroeni.
    - **Wednesday, October 10, 2018**  
**THE CATHOLIC PERSPECTIVE ON END-OF-LIFE CARE & DANGERS OF DOCTOR-PRESCRIBED SUICIDE WORKSHOPS**  
**What does the church teach about life-sustaining healthcare decisions?**  
 Guest speaker Jennifer Ruggiero,  
 Director of the Office of Human Life & Dignity for the Diocese of Metuchen

BOTH EVENTS START AT 7PM  
 AND WILL BE GIVEN IN St Patrick Hall  
 St Brigid Church  
 129in St, Peapack, NJ 07977
7. Caregiver Ministry – Trudy
  - Sept 22<sup>nd</sup> – Caregiver workshop at St Joe’s, starts after morning Mass
8. Pam Stenzel
  - Karen spoke with Chris about CCD. Chris said at this time there is no plan to have the kids attend.
  - Karen would like to to show the video to the Parish again
  - Karen is asking Pam how much it would cost to have her come to our parish. She is going to see if she can piggy back on the timing with the diocesan talks to avoid travelling costs.
  - We spoke about needed to order the DVD again. **UPDATE**, I ordered one
9. REMINDER: Meeting dates for Sept 2018 thru Aug 2019:
  - September – None
  - October 25<sup>th</sup>
  - November – None
  - December – None

- January 24<sup>th</sup>
- February – None
- March 28<sup>th</sup>
- April – None
- May 23<sup>rd</sup>
- June – None
- July – None
- August 22<sup>nd</sup>

10. Closing Prayer – John Leyendecker

*Loving God, I thank you for the gift of life you gave and continue to give to me and to all of us.  
Merciful God, I ask your pardon and forgiveness for my own failure and the failure of all people to respect and foster all forms of life in our universe.*

*Gracious God, I pray that with your grace, I and all people will reverence, protect, and promote all life and that we will be especially sensitive to the life of the unborn, the abused, neglected, disabled, and the elderly. I pray, too, that all who make decisions about life in any form will do so with wisdom, love, and courage.*

*Living God, I praise and glorify you as Father, Source of all life, as Son, Savior of our lives, and as Spirit, Sanctifier of our lives.*

*Amen*

11. NEXT MEETING October 25<sup>th</sup> – No September Meeting

- Opening Prayer: Carl
- Closing Prayer: John