

OUTREACH COMMISSION REPORT

May 2017

Ralph Parchment, Chair

Evangelization Opportunity

Since January/February when Mass readings called the people of God to welcome each other even if a stranger or alien among us, the Outreach Commission has been learning about the US Conference of Catholic Bishops' teachings on migrants, immigrants and refugees. We are fortunate to live in the US where our religious freedom guarantees that we can follow these Church teachings as a Parish, so our initial reflections have been focused on how to apply the teachings to the migrants, immigrants, and refugees among us who are Catholic – who need a community where they can celebrate the Mass, if only temporarily. We have drafted candidate "Parish Statements of Welcome" for these brothers and sisters of ours in faith, which flow from the Bishops' teachings and statements, for Parish consideration:

- "All persons – including migrants, immigrants and refugees – are invited to participate in our Parish"
- "Everyone, including migrants, immigrants, and refugees, is welcome and invited to participate in our Parish"
- "We welcome migrants, immigrants and refugees to join us in celebrating the Mass"
- "We invite everyone to join in the celebration of Mass and participate in parish life at St. Ann Catholic Church"
- "We welcome everyone to join in the celebration of the Mass at St Ann"
- "We welcome migrants, immigrants and refugees to worship with us"

The US Bishops' teaching is available at (<http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/immigration/catholic-teaching-on-immigration-and-the-movement-of-peoples.cfm>), and Archbishop Lori's January letter at (<http://www.archbalt.org/about-us/the-archbishop/upload/Immigration-letter-1-30-17.pdf>).

Recent Team Activities

- **Communications**
Next St Ann Reaches Out newsletter will be published Pentecost weekend; Bill has sent a reminder to team leaders requesting articles and photos (with permissions if needed). The Newsletter should be paired with the Pentecost theme of the Holy Spirit landing on us and calling us to do at least one thing in response to our election, and the Commission hopes that that calling and the Newsletter can be emphasized during the Pentecost Masses.
- **Habitat for Humanity/Apostles Build**
After some discussion, the Commission decided to stop funding HfH-Washington County – both the donation from the operating budget and the Poor Box - because it has been unable to re-start Apostles Build after 3 years. The Commission will draft a letter for the Parish Office to use in notifying HfH that we will no longer support them and why.
- **Children in Need**
one more CIN collection this year, likely laundry pods; Christin and Donna will coordinate.
- **Haiti Parish Partnership/Summer Camp**
Littlest Angels campaign finished at 723 angels, 90% of the 800 goal.
Summer camp planning is moving ahead well; the team of 10 leaves 7/6 and returns 7/15.
Spirituality - sent Fr Alexis with 100+ rosaries and will bring back rosaries for our children.
Music Outreach - Recently sent about \$1000 for the next 10 months of support. The choirs are working on the other \$200 to fund the entire year.
Rotary is continuing the process since their last fundraiser. They are working on the global grant.

- **Holly Place – Donna Louzon**
St Ann volunteers are supplying a meal 3-4 times each month to Holly Place. Holly Place has five new volunteers from the Ministry Fair.
- **Micah’s Backpack**
This weekend school-based feeding program for children eligible for free or reduced lunches is currently serving 26 students at Maugansville Elementary School. St Ann also supplies weekly food bags to 10 teens from South High, combining efforts with four other churches. The food in these backpacks is often the primary meals these students receive over the weekend.
- **Poor Box – Susan Becker**
The Commission has decided to replace Habitat for Humanity-Washington County with Mary’s Center as the designated Agency for the May collection. English & More will be the designated Agency for the June collection.

FY18 (July 1, 2017-June 30, 2018)			
Month	Agency	Amount	Agency Mission
Jul	Holly Place	(+\$250 budgeted)	assisted living for low-income elderly
Aug	Parishioners’ Needs	(+\$250 budgeted)	assistance for parishioners w/financial difficulties
Sep	Children in Need	(+\$250 budgeted)	school supplies and other items for local, low-income children and MS/HS students
Oct	Hagerstown Rescue Mission	(+\$250 budgeted)	men dealing with substance abuse w/soup kitchen
Nov	Loaves and Fishes	(+\$250 budgeted)	Community Food Bank at St Mark’s
Dec	Mary’s Center	(+\$250 budgeted)	material assistance and pregnancy testing
Jan	CASA	(+\$250 budgeted)	victims of domestic violence
Feb	W House	(+\$250 budgeted)	women recovering from substance abuse
Mar	Salvation Army	(+\$250 budgeted)	poor and homeless women/children w/soup kitchen
Apr	STAR Ventures	-- (+\$250 budgeted)	community for mentally-challenged adults
May	Hagerstown Area Pregnancy Ctr	-- (+\$200 budgeted)	medical care for community uninsured
Jun	English and More	-- (+\$250 budgeted)	pursuit of educational goals and mastery of English by students and adults

The proposed Poor Box for FY18 is:

- **Pro-Life Outreach**
Significantly increased by budgeting supported for Pro-Life ministries in Washington County, as well as adding a second month to the Poor Box collection.

