

Assumption (O'Fallon) Home Visit Ministry Presentation Notes – 6/12/19

Jeannette Hamann

- Opening comments (attached)
- The Four Pillars of Stewardship (attached)
- Objective: registered parishioners who do not attend Mass are visited by regular parish church goers.

Fr. Mitch Doyen

- The ministry is grounded in relationships.
- Be open to what is next.
- Parish stewardship was not evolving as they hoped; became re-energized by attending Diocese of Wichita conference.
- Goals:
 - 1) Make faith formation meaningful for everyone:
 - Montessori approach: trusting that the Holy Spirit is at work in every person since birth.
 - Need to hear other people's stories; need a listening heart to hear how Christ is already working in each person.
 - 2) Build small community in a large parish ("the desire of the human person is to be in community; we are blocked by a culture that actually isolates each other.")
- Over 14 months have visited 500 households (parish has 3,300).
 - Catechists visited grade school and PSR students.
 - Pastoral teams made visits.
 - Parish leadership made visits.
 - Pastor made visits.
- Obstacles:
 - Not all people are comfortable sharing stories; need to encourage them.
 - Logistics is challenging.
- Fruits of effort:
 - Parish spirituality has increased
 - Developed 300 "block rosary teams"

Melina Kruper

- Open up to be vulnerable and let the Holy Spirit work.
- Created training plan for all people making home visits; role-play different scenarios; 1.5 hours long.
- Key – find common ground to start the conversation.
- Setting up home visits – contact family and provide several alternate dates/times to choose from.
- Opening call – "I would like to get to know you better."
- Most families were open to having visitors come.
- Each visit ½ hour to 1 hour long.
- Gave each family a gift bag (rosary, Marian prayer cards, rosary kit).
- End of each visit – pray with each other; made prayer requests to each other.
- Result - relationships changed and friendships formed.
- Families that said "no" initially are hearing other's stories and opening up to a visit.
- People that were visited are now making home visits.