

**ST. MICHAEL CHURCH
COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMISSION**

Meeting Minutes for Monday, February 16, 2009

PRESENT: Diane R., Harold M., Sara G., Kathy S., Deacon Ken De Hanes., Marge V., Carol W.

ABSENT: Rhonda M., Jessica T.

Opening prayer was led by Deacon Ken. Mission Statements were read. The November meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

FOLLOW UP ITEMS:

- **Old St. Mary's Pregnancy Center (Ken & Diane)**
 - Diane, Carol and Deacon Ken will try to visit the center on March 18th. Deacon Ken explained set-up of center. Support comes from Old St. Mary's parish ONLY and donations from outside groups. It receives no Archdiocesan support to run the pregnancy center. It is the only Catholic pregnancy center in the area.

- **Baby Shower (Diane)**
 - Collection dates set for May 9/10 and May 16/17. All donations will be for the Old St. Mary's Pregnancy Center. Carol & Marge tentatively scheduled on May 11th to deliver donations and Diane is tentatively scheduled on May 18th to deliver donations.

- **Helping Hands (Harold)**
 - Harold reports that 50% of requests so far have been for transportation. Harold raised the question of auto and general liability on the part of St. Mike's in case of an incident. Deacon Ken said he would talk to the Chancellor to question our responsibility.

- **Interfaith Hospitality (Marge)**
 - Next date – 3/30/09. Marge followed up with parishioner interested in helping with her son and husband. Marge was going to re-submit article in both the weekly and monthly bulletins for informational and volunteer purposes.

- **Giving Tree (Diane)**
 - Gift drives were deemed successful based on trips needed by Valley IFN and Su Casa to transport donations, but the economy did play a part in volume. Not all the family envelopes were taken off of the Giving Tree, so Diane, Marge and Carol were forced to make up the lists on the fly from openly donated gifts at the last minute. This was stressful for all involved. The idea was discussed to keep the Su Casa relationship going for now, but switch family gift donations from Valley Interfaith to the St. Vincent DePaul group based out of St. Michael's parish. Diane was going to discuss this further with Nancy Booms.

- It was suggested that we send a “Thank You” note to Fr. John for allowing the Giving Tree to be set up in upper-level Gathering Space and report the success and volume of the event, which we believe, as a commission, is directly related to the “visibility” of the Giving Tree adorned with ornaments.
- **Ministry Fair**
 - Scheduled for weekend of 4/19.

NEXT MEETING: March 16 at 7:30 in the Parish office.

We closed with the Prayer of St Michael.

Minutes prepared by Kathy Szczur, 3/8/09