

Care for Creation Committee Meeting

Vision Statement:

Honor God the Creator by challenging one another to live as partners with Creation by being good stewards of the earth's resources.

Mission Statement:

As a parish, we shall identify and implement programs that exercise environmental stewardship in a manner that respects and protects the integrity of God's Creation and provides for the Common Good.

Meeting Date: April 15, 2024

Time: 7:00 PM, Sacred Heart Commons

Attendees: Frank Murphy (chairman), William Wallace, Patricia Britz, Jane Pellegrino, Michael Manning, and Annette Field

Opening prayer "Honor God" by Frank

Goals for 2023-2024:

1. Support the "Keep Norfolk Beautiful" Adopt-A-Street program on a quarterly basis by having parishioners clean Sacred Heart's designated portion of West Princess Anne Road.
2. Participate in a 2024 Earth Day event.
3. Support programs that reduce waste while implementing additional resource saving programs. Reduce the parish's paper consumption by 25% by the end June, 2022.
4. Educate the parish membership on how to reduce waste, reuse goods and recycle. Publish a relevant note at least once per month; use social media to further educate the parish during the 2023-2024 Church year.
5. Conduct at least two youth/family programs that emphasize waste reduction, recycling, and environmental stewardship during the 2023-24 Church year.
6. Discern the Sacred Heart Response to the call to participate in the Laudato Si Action Platform (LSAP) <http://laudatosiactionplatform.org>

Frank commenced the meeting after the prayer by reviewing the Goals of the past year and determining whether we wish to keep them in the coming year.

Keep Norfolk Beautiful (KNB): We wish to continue this goal of cleaning Princess Anne Avenue from Monticello Avenue and Hampton Boulevard. Frank has turned over the records and pertinent contact information to Annette, who will coordinate this in the coming year. We will need to send an email to Chrissy in the office to recruit members of the parish through Constant Contact at least two weeks prior to the clean-up date. The quarters for the clean-up fall January to March, April to June, July to September, and October to December. Any Saturday within those dates is to be set for the clean-up.

Participate in an Earth Day event: We will keep this goal. For this year Gabby Molinaro created a Flyer for Earth Day which was to be placed in the commons with additional copies to be taken home. (See attachment at the end of the minutes.)

Reduction of waste: While good strides have been made in this area, we feel that we've reached our current capacity for changing behavior. Increased usage of paper for the Bulletins has been sadly reversed at this point.) The goal will be retained in the hopes that we will have future ideas, but it will be less emphasized until that time.

Education of the parish: We will keep this goal. Education includes Announcements from the pulpit, Prayers of the Faithful, and Bulletin Notes (currently prepared monthly by Jane). Bulletin notes and Announcements should be sent to the office at least 2 weeks prior to their intended publication. Sandra Bryant has occasionally included Care for Creation issues in the Prayers. We should give her our ideas on future ones. The use of Constant Contact should be utilized more often.

Conduct two youth/family education programs on Care for Creation goals. Jane suggested that we do a homework project in the Spring/early Summer since the children attend Religious Education every Sunday now, instead of taking one weekend "off". She continues to work with Sister Lin (who is extremely busy) on this and will check with her about handouts that the children can take home. This will remain a goal of the Committee.

Laudato Si Action Plan: Jane is ready to prepare the application for the Action Plan. We still need the current energy footprint of the parish from the office. She plans to present it to the Parish Pastoral Council for final approval and is hoping to apply to LSAP by the end of the fiscal year (June) upon receiving their support. Requirements include the impact goals, vision, and our dates. (See attached.)

Next meeting will be May 20th at 7:00PM at Fellini's.

Closing prayer by William.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:05 PM.

Laudatosiactionplatform.org



LSAP Ideas for
consideration.pdf



Next Steps
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Careflyer Earth Day
2024 1.docx



Bulletin
Submissions Care fo