

# Minutes for ACTS Core Team Meeting

February 6, 2012 at Mary Immaculate Rectory

## Opening Prayer

Brief moment of silence followed by a prayer led by Carmen Pernudi.

## Review of Last Month's Minutes

Tom motioned that we accept last month's minutes as-is and Carmen seconded that motion.

## Prayer Exercise

Deacon Ken started by explaining that the disciples initially thought that Jesus would be coming back within their lifetime, but it didn't happen. He went on to explore the greek words for time that were used in the writing of Mark's Gospel and how "the time for fulfillment" or *kairos* meant life-changing time. "The Kingdom of God is at hand" was the key to this idea of a big change that was going to occur. Lastly, he stressed the importance of repentance and approaching God in holiness. We must change our lifestyle and truly believe in the Gospel, the "Good News" that Jesus brought to us. Through ACTS we have found this life-changing experience to come to life for us. Jesus invited the apostles, "come, follow me," and Deacon stressed that Jesus continues to call us today in the same manner. He has called us all individually to follow Him and live the Gospel.

He went on to tell the story of a polish priest who was called to minister to the workers of the steel mills in Warsaw. He preached non-violence and resistance during the protests of communism. He was later martyred for the faith, but his example was more powerful than the violence of the communists. Christ calls us to love others and to stand up for our faith and the dignity of life. We must love as Jesus did, without conditions or prejudice. Deacon asked us to discern where and how Jesus is calling each of us to serve and to take action.

## Open Floor to Non-Core

The following issues were brought to the attention of the Core:

- ⤴ **Lydia Carrizosa:** The women's director gave an update about the women's retreat. The commissioning is scheduled for February 26<sup>th</sup> at Santa Rosa at the 9am Mass. The dates have been chosen for the pulpit talks, but the times and locations have not been confirmed. There are 43 team members and already 3 retreatants. Fr. Steve is the spiritual companion for this retreat and Susan Castillo will help out during the formation when Fr. Steve cannot make it. The theme is "I am the good shepherd. I know mine and mine know me." She also explained that a few of the women will be helping out with a soup kitchen at St. Ferdinand. The return Mass is hoped to be at 12 noon at St. Ferdinand. There will also be a fundraiser on the 19<sup>th</sup> of the February. Fr. Porfirio asked that we make a stronger effort to encourage retreatants to serve in the parishes. He explained that in his experience on the east coast the retreatants stepped up into many of these roles in the parish. Andrew suggested we have forms available for follow-up to help with this topic. Ron explained that there are several men who have become ushers and Eucharistic ministers at the english Masses at Mary Immaculate. Deacon explained that the first people to go on retreat are people who are already involved in parish ministries and for that reason we don't see as much of an impact.
- ⤴ **Fr. Porfirio Garcia, OMI:** He asked if we were ready to start doing spanish ACTS retreats. Fr. Meme, Fr. Antonio, Fr. Victor, Fr. John, and Fr. Stan have all expressed an interest in this. Sal explained that we can request that ACTS Missions come out and get it started. Deacon explained that the reason the three parishes wanted to bring ACTS to our community was to help stimulate the english-speaking congregation. Ron will get in touch with ACTS Missions and see what would be necessary to get started. Fr. Porfirio added that this retreat is a renewal of the soul and that even though the spanish-speaking community is very active, they still need the spiritual renew that only ACTS has provided thus far.

## Selection of Men's Retreat Director

Rosemary played a song titled "the Servant Song" and we all sang along. Deacon Ken led us in an opening prayer, then Ron explained that it is the Holy Spirit who will choose the man to be the next director. We have two eligible candidates who are willing to serve. Danny read a passage from 1 Kings, then the non-Core members were asked to step out so we could discuss the two candidates. Rosemary played another song, "Here I Am Lord," Susan read a passage from Acts, and then we cast our votes. Florencio Gurrola was selected as the next men's retreat director. We concluded with a song titled "Make Me What You Will."

## Coordinator Reports

Each member of the Core gave an update:

- ⤴ **Supplies:** Danny stated that in the inventory last month there were a few things needed for future retreats (ie. Fishers-of-men bracelets, rosary pamphlets, nails for necklaces, Rediscovering Catholicism, Coming Down the Mountain). A duplicate will also need to be ordered, but Ron will take care of it.
- ⤴ **Spiritual:** Susan explained that the group rosary has been set up at the Santa Rosa hall. Ricky will publish the dates. She asked if we could purchase a few rosaries for those who might need one to use during the group as well as some pamphlets explaining how to pray the rosary. She added that the soup kitchen will be at St. Ferdinand on March 9<sup>th</sup> and help will be needed to cook and serve. The cost would be less than \$100 to make the spaghetti and garlic bread. Deacon Ken mentioned that Santa Rosa has asked ACTS to host the Stations of the Cross on the same night from 6:00-6:30pm.
- ⤴ **Music:** Rosemary asked that Ricky send out a request for a Mary Immaculate to learn to use the projection program there to use in the future for return Mass.
- ⤴ **Financial:** Sal presented a financial report to all Core members, which Ricky will keep record of. Susan expressed a concern for the amount of money going towards table snacks, which the women have done differently. Sal stated that it is important to establish a budget so that we are handling our money responsibly. Rosie presented the sheet that the women give to each team member with an estimate of what costs they are to expect. Ricky asked if Sal will be providing each director with a budget so that they can make sure to not spend more than necessary. Ron asked that the women record their expenses, better yet create a list of foreseeable expenses so that the men can see where they should be at financially. Rosie added that with fundraisers that will help to cover these additional expenses. Carmen stated that the men and women's expenses on retreat should all be approved by the director.
- ⤴ **Support:** Tom mentioned that he has been donating his time and money to tow the trailer for each retreat. Andrew suggested a book called "Be a Man" by Fr. Larry Richards. He will purchase a few copies for the Core to read so we can possibly hand them out after the men's retreat. Deacon Ken and Tom offered to read it.
- ⤴ **Communications:** Ricky said that the website will be up by next week pending a check from Sal for the hosting fee.
- ⤴ **Fundraising:** Rosie explained that the women will be doing a fundraiser at St. Ferdinand on the 19<sup>th</sup> of February. They will sell menudo and breakfast burritos from 7am-2pm. At the next women's meeting there will be sign-up sheets for this event. Rosie also stated that she would like to approach community businesses for donations. She will be writing letters for this purpose.
- ⤴ **Facilitator:** Carmen mentioned that the letters to the Bishop, Tom Wilson, and Sr. Fatima will be sent out soon. Ricky will send Carmen the logo.

## New Business

- ⤴ **Crucifixes:** Carmen presented a few different options that we could purchase as the official tri-parish ACTS crucifix. It was voted that we will use a single crucifix for every retreat. Carmen asked if anyone had ideas for which crucifix to use that they bring them to the next meeting.

## Next Meeting

The meeting will be held March 5<sup>th</sup>. Andrew will do the opening prayer and Laurie will do the closing prayer. Danny will be bringing the snacks.

## Closing Prayer

Ricky led the closing prayer.