

Elizabeth Ministry
Meeting Notes
April 14, 2005

Attendees: Janet, Pat, Valerie, and Maria

Member Directory – Valerie handed out a list of our current members

Calendar – A calendar of events was provided to everyone for 2005

Updates/Future Developments

A. Advertising

1. Website/e-mail

- a) E-mail address: elizabethministry@sttm.org
- b) Sign-up form on Parish website under Elizabeth Ministry

2. MOMS/PTO

- a) Maria presented our ministry at the last MOMS ministry meeting. A number of women expressed interest, took sign-up sheets with them
- b) PTO – since we're towards the end of the school year, sports are underway (limited spare time for moms), and with the coming Ministry Fair (see later in notes), decided to hold off presentation until early next year (assuming we have permission)
- c) We've advertised in the bulletin the last 3 weeks. Would like to continue advertising 2 times a month (with permission) the week prior to our next meeting and the week of our meeting
- d) More About Us – quarterly publication by the parish – Valerie wrote an article. Look for it in an upcoming parish mailing!!!
- e) Flyers are on bulletin board (need to update them). Took down large poster to make room for others.
- f) If anyone can think of anything else that should go on web, let Maria know. Are considering:
 - List of books at Lending Library
 - List of outreach
 - Prayer requests (building in confidentiality opportunities)

B. Fund-raising/parish council update

Fund raising requests follow a protocol. We have submitted a request to fund raise to parish council. We provided them with a report of our efforts to date, items in progress, and what our funds are needed for. We received some positive support and are waiting for contact from the Parish Fund Raising Committee.

C. Lending Library Update

- 1. What we have - We have about 15 or so books in the library to date. Valerie donated quite a few books and videos! (Thanks Valerie)! If anyone would like to help out in the library, let Maria know. We can set a time up to help organize the books, to thank Darline F. for helping our efforts and providing us with space. It would be a nice gesture. We could work an evening or weekend for a few hours.

2. How to work this - Thoughts are to “open” the library the Sundays during coffee and donuts (once a month). We would have to “man” the library at that time. The web would be another opportunity to allow interested moms/families to see our list and contact us for lending opportunities.

D. Future Meeting Dates: 2nd Thursday of the month, 7-9pm in Fr Wack Library

1. May 12 – Marian Event – will have short meeting afterward
2. June meeting to be determined

III. Special Events

A. Marian Event (expectant mother’s blessing/ice cream social)

1. Thursday May 12, 7pm
2. We are sponsoring this.
3. Working w/Peg P. and Rosemary W., possibly a living rosary with the 1st communicants.
4. Need volunteer to contact Peg/Rosemary
5. Will pass out sign-up sheet

B. Pentecost Ministry Fair – May 14 and 15

1. Tables set up after all masses
2. Valerie is not available the 14th
3. Supplies needed
 - a) Video – Valerie has a video that we could show continuously, nice overview of our ministry
 - b) TV/VCR (Valerie)
 - c) Will set our brochures (updated with our e-mail address – elizabethministry@sttm.org)
 - d) Recruitment folders/booklets/flyers
 - e) Calendar of events
 - f) Medals, prayer cards
 - g) Blessing bouquet
 - h) THINK RED!!!
 - i) List of Lending Library books with description of our Lending Library and few sample books to “catch” the eye
 - j) Need to find out if we’ll have an easel to use or any other supplies available (poster board, etc)
 - k) Everyone wear nametag (Valerie made some VERY nice ones to pin on)

We have all of the supplies listed above, though the cards on the blessing bouquets might need to be updated. We need a poster and other ideas to draw people over to our display.

Please consider signing up to attend as many time slots that you can (after each mass on Sat and Sun). The more bodies and friendly faces we have, the more attention we can bring. Your face may be familiar to others,

which may, again, peak their interest. BARE MINIMUM we need one person after each mass.

Need someone to lead this initiative. As mentioned, most display items are ready. Need to organize display, create poster, enlist volunteers.

IV. Open Discussion

- A. Infant Loss Blessing/Memorial Service – changed to October. Oct 8-15 is Baby Loss Awareness Week. President Reagan declared Oct. 15 as Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day. Makes sense to plan memorial service at this time (vs All Souls). Valerie is working with Deacon Jerry to get on the calendar. Linda, in a previous meeting, suggested incorporating a healing service. Pat knows someone at St. Veronica would offer course on how to prepare readings for prayer service. She will talk to her over the summer. If anyone would like to lead/co-lead this initiative, let Valerie know.
- B. Breakfast with Baby Jesus – will change name
- C. Blessing Bouquets – prayer requests have been funneled through Valerie. She will forward prayer requests to our members, being cognizant of privacy. She will just give first name. If someone leaves a phone number on the Blessing Bouquet card, we will call the person to let them know we received their prayer request and offer additional support if they would like it. If you are interested in making calls, let Valerie know. We still would like to tack them somehow onto the bulletin board. Valerie to talk with Becky for approval.
- D. Growing the Ministry – realize summer is probably not the time to grow with vacations, sports, etc. We will continue our efforts during the summer. Once school is back in session we will become aggressive, yet again. ☺
- E. Prayer Requests – would like to add Prayer Requests on the Web. We will consult with Becky to discuss this option, further research privacy issues and process. Would anyone like to help grow this opportunity??? The “main” Elizabeth Ministry Website provides this opportunity. It would be nice to offer it locally. We would also like to link our prayer requests with the Rosary Prayer circle.
- F. Kristy – Penny has been lead minister. At last update, Kristy is doing well, into the “safe” zone. Has been working at home. Once baby is born we will offer dinners (utilize “One and Done program”), take gift (baby booties (Janet), maybe blanket (Pat) or prayer shawl (MOMS Ministry)
- G. Pat is teaching youth group to sew (with Diane B.). They will be making fleece blankets and donating them to A Caring Place, possibly through the Elizabeth Ministry. She thought we could keep a few on hand for our ministry. This ministry starts in June. We may try to blend this youth group ministry with the Elizabeth Ministry at the Ministry Fair to demonstrate Social Justice (how one ministry works to help another).
- H. Social Justice wanted a baby shower to help A Caring Place, may want to work with our ministry.

V. PRAYER REQUESTS

We thought it would be appropriate to add prayer requests to our notes. The “order” of the Elizabeth Ministry has asked each of us members to take time each day (at the noon hour) to prayer for our sisters in need. We realize that noon may or may not be a convenient hour. Please try, though, to include in your prayers each day the following intentions:

- Kristy – that she continues a healthy pregnancy and delivers a healthy baby
- Ann, daughter of Pat M., who just lost a baby daughter
- Pat’s (EM member) son and daughter-in-law – expecting 1st baby. Help daughter-in-law come back to the church
- Penny – our lead minister. Pray for her so our spiritual presence is with her as she offers support and companionship to Kristy.

Member	Item
Valerie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Order EM Manuals •
Maria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • revise bulletin board flyers • continue effort on fund raising • continue bulletin announcements
??	Ministry Fair
??	Marian Event
All (let Valerie or Maria know if you’re interested in leading any of these initiatives)	Determine availability/desire to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • coordinate/organize our booth at ministry fair • coordinate/organize Marian Event (work with Peg P. and Rosemary W.) • ability to volunteer at Library to organize our books, and those of school (possible one time event to show our gratitude) • coordinate library schedule (once a month after coffee and donuts – need “librarians”) • Additional Website suggestions • “Prayer Requests” on the Web • PRAY FOR OUR SISTERS

Note: Becky Ready is our Parish Consult. We must run everything through her. So as not to overwhelm her with our requests, please funnel everything through Valerie and/or Maria first.