

Elizabeth Ministry

Notes

September 19, 2005

1) Welcome and Introductions

**Kristy joined us with baby Nicolas. What a sweetie!! She thanked us for our support.*

**Welcome to Michelle Minardi and Kelly Lang*

a) Opening prayer – Elizabeth Ministry Prayer

1) Updates

a) Membership (Rachael)

b) Education Coordinator (Linda)

i) Orientation – 2nd orientation held. Linda will send out notes to all new members who couldn't attend the session. The video will be available to borrow for "home viewing" – contact Linda for your turn

ii) Baptism gifts, Flyer to distribute during Baptism classes – Linda working on

iii) Minister Training

(1) Program – will be "one on one" training to go over manual and resources as needed

(2) Elizabeth Ministry Book (book of letters) – idea is to share your story, let others know they are not alone. Submit to Maria if you would like to share.

iv) Elizabeth Ministry Pin – Maria will look into cost of pin. Members may want to purchase their own until we get funds.

v) Prayer card/bookmark – Linda created a nice prayer card with the Elizabeth Ministry prayer on it. She is adding Ministry info on the back of the card. These will be great to distribute!!!

c) Blessing Bouquet (Kris)

i) 2 new prayer intentions – see separate prayer list

ii) Kris will place another vase on the other side of church

iii) Kris to call prayer circle with new intentions. If anyone is interested in joining prayer circle call Karen Klysz or Kathy Brannen – check the bulletin for more info.

d) Library – under construction

e) PTO meeting – Maria presented our Ministry's objectives, what we've accomplished and what we're planning to accomplish at the last meeting. Flyers were distributed.

f) Fund Raising

i) Bulletin Announcement – on hold due to Hurricane support

ii) Baby blankets – Pat Rieck is donating a fleece Bengal's blanket to the ministry in the hopes for us to raffle to gather funds. Maria will submit idea to Fund Raising Committee. We may have others to raffle off too.

iii) Cookbook – Kelly Lang joined us to discuss opportunity to create a parish cookbook.

- We would ask parishioners, school families, friends to contribute their favorite recipe
- Could ask for advertisers
- Need those submitting recipes to feel like they have a “stake in it”, they need to know where the money is going, we could donate some books to the school library for kids, family issues, nutrition
- Cost/profit – for 150 recipes, if you sell 200 books the profit could be \$4/book, sell book for \$8+
- Annual book – 1st year appetizers & after school snacks, 2nd year soups and sandwiches, 3rd year veges, etc.
- Can select cover from selection or create own for more \$\$\$
- Kathy is part of MOPS. They sell books every year (??) – Kathy to find out how they handle it.....they make their own
- Could offer discount coupon to submit entry
- Advertising – list how proceeds will be spent
- Have pre-order selling in back of church

2) Upcoming Events

a) Memorial Service

- Tuesday, Oct 19 at 6:30 or 7 (we’ll push for 7)
- Work w/Margaret to do music
- Flyers to school, PSR, church, bulletin boards, hospitals (next Wed school packet going out) - Maria
- Invite friends, families, other parishes???? – Maria
- Flyer – invite ALL (non-denominational service)
- May send out some personal invites – not sure what lists we have
- May request RSVP to include special intention (can email to Eliz Min address)
- Would like prayer cards available
- Hand out candles – light during service, with special wording when the candles are blown out “lifting blessings to heaven”
- Memorial Book to include all babies names – will try to have displayed by main entrance of church with Blessing Bouquet to allow parishioners to SEE it and add names – hopefully weeks before service
- Info about The Shrine of the Holy Innocence (adds babies in book of life, prays daily) and info about EM in pew, or worship aid or at reception (immediately following)
- Reception following – Linda will ask Bereavement Committee to help, also asking each of us to bring appetizer or cake/cookies
- Valerie to look up costs of candles, prayer cards, little feet pin. She’ll talk to Becky about votive candles in jars (any extras floating around), have to come up w/estimated #
- Maria will talk to Diane about program, work on advertising
- Seedlings or bulbs would be a nice give away – not sure of \$\$\$

- Tissue boxes in pews
 - Linda will work on the format of service – include
 - Intro (maybe Deacon Jerry can offer suggestions)
 - Entrance Song
 - Opening Prayer
 - Reading
 - Responsorial Psalm
 - Gospel
 - Homily
 - Petitions
 - Offer up some intentions such as “for relatives and special people who have gone before us whom we entrust to take care of our babies who have joined them in heaven”
 - Lastly pray for soul – read the names from the Memorial book
 - Candle Lighting w/Song
 - Blessing for 1) Babies lost, 2) parents, family, siblings, friends, grandparents)
 - Blow out candles – be sensitive and specific about the meaning of blowing out the candle – “to lift their spirit to God in heaven” ????
- 3) Other items
 - a) Update blue pamphlet – tabled for later discussion
 - 4) Open Discussion
 - a) Did you know nutrition (or lack their of) in your early years can cause fertility issues?. Kelly suggested this may be an opportunity for EM to educate kids and families. Book – Fertility Cycles and Nutrition, Couple to Couple League – may have pamphlet. May consider speakers, info at pre-cana classes, 8th grader education
 - 5) Prayer Requests – see prayer list
 - 6) Closing Prayer