

Catholic Grandparents Association St. Faustina, Clermont, FL, USA Pastor: Fr. Carlos Caban Ministry Leader: Jerilyn Polson Facilitator: Sam Jones

Meeting Summary Wednesday, October 16, 2024, 11:00 am

> Attendance: 8 (1 new) Grandchildren: 27

Opened with Prayer for Grandchildren

Business

Jerilyn gave an overview of the joint **pilgrimage/retreat** with the Bereavement Ministry:

Thursday, December 12, meet at 7:30 am at St. Faustina. Return approximately 4 pm.

Take bus to San Pedro Spiritual Development Center in Winter Park for full day retreat, Mass, speaker, breakfast & lunch. **\$40 registration includes everything**. Cash or check only. Register with Kim Allen, Jerilyn Polson, or at the church front office. Space is limited but we must fill the bus, so <u>please don't wait</u>.

Official Grandparents Prayer

Today's Topic: "How can we grow our ministry?"

Deacon Cris Stout led a discussion with 14 questions about our mission, whom we serve and how, challenges to growth, and ideas for improvement.

* We participate in this ministry to learn, share knowledge and experience, seek guidance and inspiration from God and each other, and to give and receive help, supporting and encouraging one another.

* We come to minister first to ourselves, then our families and parish community, and ultimately anyone God places in our path.

* We accomplish these goals through our daily living and our meetings and activities. Our meeting format is like a mini retreat. Prayer is essential.

* Some challenges to growth include scheduling conflicts, difficulty explaining what we are about, and general apathy so common today.

- * We want to improve our publicity.
- * Our publicity needs a "hook". Recipe exchange? Refreshments? Questions people can relate to.
- * Offer social events, some in the evenings. With topics. In a restaurant?

* Welcome a broader group, not just technically grandparents. Some don't like the term "elders" and many grandparents are still young!

* Plan service events in which we come together in order to go out and serve the larger community. Food bank? Orphanage? Senior center? Assisted living?

- * Publish an annual schedule of meetings, events and activities, so people can plan and choose.
- * Encourage people to bring children and grandchildren to some events.

* Nothing against Jerilyn, but we need new/additional moderators and leaders.

New Member Prayer

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 20, 11 am