

PMT Presentation for General meeting 11/14/2010

"I have told you many times that the Church is not the Bishop alone, nor is it the clergy, or the laity alone. The Church is the Bishop, the clergy and the laity working together as a beautiful symphony for the glory of God." -Metropolitan Philip

We have also been given directives from God as defined in the Holy Scriptures.

(1 Peter 2:9) "You are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you might proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light..."

(Mark 10:43-45) "But whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life a ransom for many."

(1 Corinthians 12:4-7) "There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are diversities of ministries but the same Lord. And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all."

These directions and directives are impossible to ignore. We are important enough to be called "A Royal Priesthood" . The Church is the Body of Christ. Just like any healthy body every member must perform it's own function for the good of the whole. We all have many different gifts, however each one of them is a gift of the same Spirit and designed, not for the glory of an individual, but for the good of the whole Church.

The Parish Ministry Team Program is a cooperative way of promoting lay ministry that relies on the God-given talents and capabilities of both the laity and clergy to do God's work in the Church, using teams. We need a way to renew and extend the Faith of our parish. PMT's are a way for us to utilize the untapped talents within our parish and give way for individual renewal and self-evangelism.

Fr Basil has asked me to be the PMT coordinator. Together we have compiled five Parish ministry teams. These groups should encompass the needs of our parish. Our goal is to have full parish participation. My job as the PMT coordinator is to serve as the Parish's director of volunteers, and to work with Fr Basil and the parish council to determine the needs of the parish, evaluate the outcomes of the teams, and keep the teams organized. All of the teams, though unique in their title, are still common in their goal. In fact many aspects of the teams overlap. God willing this will be a way for us to know what the right hand is doing and keep us all connected to each other.

It is not easy to be a good leader. We have been given some very strong Christian principals in regard to how we should view any leadership role in Christ's Church. The Christian leader is neither a dictator or controlling- he is a facilitator and an initiator. The Christian leader is not commanding and demanding- but rather based in the process of teaching and showing. The Christian leadership is not impersonal and demeaning- it is personal and uplifting. Christian leadership is not enslaving and constraining- it is liberating and empowering. We are called to these standards that should be reflected in the way that we conduct our lives. Considering this, we must understand that we are all suppose to practice this type

of Christian leadership, as we lead ourselves, or if we are called to lead other like our PMT Team Leaders are.

Liturgical PMT: Sbd. Mark (Eric) Townsend. This team includes the Choir, Chanters, Acolytes, Holy Bread (Prospora), and liturgical supplies.

Christian Education PMT: LaVonne Ayoub. This team includes SOYO, Catechumens, Outreach, and AOWNA.

Building and Grounds PMT: Owen Rush. This team includes the yard, Hall and Church structures and their maintenance, and or cleaning.

Hospitality PMT: Mark Ayoub. This team includes: Evangelism, Bookstore, Lunch hour

Financial PMT: Kendell Ebert. This team includes Stewardship, Hall Rentals, Accounting, and Fundraising.

Some of you might be asking why we need another program or group. The reason is clear. Satan is not letting up, and we must continue to be faithful, vigilant, hard-working, resourceful, and reliant on God. Our success, as a parish, is not assured by just our Faith, but also by our works. We must seek out ways that our work can be made more productive for the glory of God. The PMT approach offers our parish an effective approach for all of us to accomplish together as a family.

The pressures that we all face in today's society are unlike anything the Church has ever had to contend with. We live in a secular society that is preoccupied with material, things. I don't just mean clothing and a home. This preoccupation is manifested in many different ways. Great emphasis is placed on making a living, taking children to any one of many activities, vacations, etc. God wants our needs to be met, but we have to keep our focus on Him. Too many times we put our Church life second to anything else. Why can we make time and have the energy for the secular activities we do yet when it comes to the Church and service within our community we are all too tired, or lacking in time? Our focus has to change.

I need all of you to search your hearts and see which parish ministry team you can contribute to. If you feel like your talents won't fit under the umbrella of any of the current teams please come and talk to me. Fr Basil and I do not want to leave anybody out of this important and rewarding opportunity to serve God and His Church. I couldn't think of a better closing than this quote from (Ephesians 4:14-16) "As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves, and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ, from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by that which every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love."