



MULTIPARISH COOPERATIVE SERVICE GROUP

They sowed fields and planted vineyards that yielded a fruitful harvest
Psalm 107

To: Deanery Pastors, Clergy, Religious and Staff
From: Joe Swyt
Date: January 22, 2005
Re: Minutes Deanery Staff Day
January 21, 2005
Most Holy Trinity Center

Future Meetings:

Deanery Clergy Meeting

February 11, 2005
Friday
11:00 am to 1:00 pm
Christ the King

Deanery Bishop Meeting

March 8, 2005
Tuesday Evening
7:00 to 10:00 pm
St. Francis of Assisi

Deanery Staff Meeting

April 8, 2005
Friday
11:00 am to 1:00 pm

Opening prayer and introductions with Fr. Tim Kidney as moderator. Joe Swyt took minutes. Approximately 30 clergy, religious and staff attended including Anne Grycz, Director, ILM and new members from St. Patrick Proto-Cathedral, Five Wounds and Holy Cross parishes.

ILM Evaluation

The group met as parishes and reported individually on the leadership roles of ILM graduates in their parish, evaluated the program and made recommendations to Anne which included the following:

1. Improve or screen candidates initially for public speaking and presentation skills
2. A discernment process in the parish for and by candidates is needed
3. Industry skills of candidates is a helpful consideration
4. Parish leadership assignments for graduates is helpful
5. A two tier program might be considered: one level for educational and formation and the second for parish leadership
6. To what extent does the ILM current model of teaching no longer apply, where students are more visual and multimedia oriented rather than oral presentations
7. What post graduation evaluation methods would be helpful
8. Parishes can help with recommendations for third year topics.
9. Cultural differences of students needs to be recognized
10. Should there be minimum standards for entry into the program
11. Can the pastor withdraw the endorsement of candidates/students
12. Use outside existing services to supplement training programs like Toastmasters
13. Use an essay writing exercise by candidates, reviewed by pastors/staff to determine writing/presentation skills of candidates

Overall it was agreed that the vision of the ILM is being achieved and people generally are satisfied with the current program.



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Raskob Foundation Grant

Joe Swyt reported that the Cooperative was successful in receiving a \$30,000 matching grant from the Raskob Foundation for the Youth Internship Program. The Raskob executives liked the internship concept as applied to youth ministry and were also impressed with the Multiparish Cooperative business model of formal collaboration and its successes.

Per the plan, each of the six parishes is asked to make their contribution to the Cooperative in the amount of \$5000, with a check notation "For the Raskob Matching Grant". St. John Vianney, St. Francis and Most Holy Trinity have already made their contribution. With that money in hand the application for the Raskob grant can be made. A program-planning meeting will then be scheduled.

Christian Spirituality Certificate Program

Joe also reported on his success in establishing in the diocese, a new, Loyola New Orleans certificate program in *Christian Spirituality* that will be offered in 2005. It is a six-course program for CE credits or that can be audited. Tuition cost for the credited program is \$195 per course and \$90 per audited course. The Spirituality Center, under Fr. Kevin Joyce will facilitate the program and Rosemarie Peoples will serve as the program coordinator. Joe serves as the coordinator with Loyola and the diocese's of Monterey and San Jose. The program is tentatively scheduled to begin in June and finish in May 2005, with Friday evenings, Saturday and a follow-up meeting satisfying the contact requirement. Reading materials requirements and ordering will be available on a website.

Joe will coordinate with Fr. Roy Shelly of the Diocese of Monterey the certificate program of *Parish Life and Administration* which will also be marketed to the Dioceses of Monterey, San Jose, Oakland, San Francisco and Stockton.

Every parish is invited and encouraged to send one or two lay leaders to the *Christian Spirituality* courses and a key staff person to the *Parish Life and Administration* courses.

Household Financial Ministry (Crown)

Joe further reported on the current status of the Cooperative sponsored Crown Ministry ten-week bible study course in the parishes. From the 50 people who attended the facilitator training Saturday session last year at MHT there is now a core group of parishioners in OLG, CTK and SMG who have organized follow-on Spanish language study groups in those parishes starting this month.

The Cooperative purchases the student course materials from Crown and distributes them to the parish teams. Fees are collected and returned to the Cooperative, who also subsidizes some of the fees for more needy families. Fifty (50) sets of materials have been distributed in January. The cost to a family is about \$75.00.



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Parishes can increase the number of on-going study groups by identifying new facilitators. If ten new facilitators can be identified in all the parishes, a new training session can be scheduled for February 26 at one of the parish sites.

Vietnamese Ministry Proposal to the Bishop

In response to the Bishop's reply to the proposal from the pastors for expanded Vietnamese ministry, a Coordinating Team was established to meet with Fr. Hien Nguyen after which the Bishop will meet with the team to discuss the outcome. Sr. Catherine Dang will serve as the team facilitator. Fr. Eddie mentioned that MHT would table their Vietnamese mass expansion plans until the deanery discernment on this issue is resolved.

Member

Fr. Robert Brocato, Pastor
Fr. Eddie Samaniego, Pastor
Br. Jim Sanders
Fr. Tan Pham
Fr. Steve Brown, Pastor
Msgr. Dominic Do
Sr. Catherine Dang
Victor Espinoza
Fr. Tim Kidney, Pastor & Dean
Fr. Peter Luc Phan, Pastor
Fr. Cuong Phen

Parish

Christ the King
Most Holy Trinity
Most Holy Trinity
Most Holy Trinity
St. Maria Goretti
St. Maria Goretti
St. Maria Goretti
St. Maria Goretti
St. John Vianney
St. Patrick Proto-Cathedral
St. Patrick Proto-Cathedral

Deanery Meeting with Bishop, March 8

Jeanne Gaffney and Dat Tran of St. Maria Goretti, who serve on the Diocesan Implementation Team Advisory Group, presented a proposed agenda for the meeting on March 8. After discussion, those present rejected the proposal because it was vague, one-sided and created conflicts in organizational accountability.

The following new agenda was proposed as an alternative:

- A coordinating team will be formed of deanery people to provide a one-hour input on the collaborative efforts, successes, failures and needs.
- To make this a two way reporting process, a recommendation was made that the Diocese take one hour to report to the Deanery on what it accomplished with its role in the Pastoral Plan, where it failed and what the future plans are relating to the its responsibilities in implementing the Pastoral Plan.
- Attendance be limited to clergy, religious, key staff selected by the pastors and all parish leadership council members

The Dean will contact Sr. Pat to inform her of the agenda change. The coordinating team is initially composed of the Tim, Joe, Jeanne Gaffney and Br. Jim.



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Resolution

Question: Should the deanery allow sacramental marriages in areas outside of a church?

The parish teams discussed and voted to not allow sacramental marriages in areas outside of church, which becomes the policy of the Deanery.

Diocesan Workshop on Sexual Abuse

St. Francis will host this workshop in February.

Lenten Reconciliation Schedule

St. John Vianney	March 5 and March 17
St. Maria Goretti	March 18
Christ the King	March 10
St. Francis of Assisi	March 11
Most Holy Trinity	March 9
St. Patrick's	Week of March 17

Spirit Site Mission at St. John Vianney

Other parishes are invited to attend and observe the mission put on at St. John Vianney by the SpiritSite the week of February 17, 24 and March 1. Call the office for more information.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 pm.