



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: November 21, 2004
Re: Minutes Deanery Staff Day
November 19, 2004
Most Holy Trinity Center

Calendar

<u>Clergy Holiday</u> <u>Lunch and Meeting</u>	<u>Deanery Staff Day</u> <u>Meeting</u>	<u>Deanery Meeting</u> <u>with Bishop</u>	<u>Deanery Staff Day</u> <u>Meeting</u>
Monday, Dec 6, 2005 Noon to 2:00 PM St. John Vianney	January 25, 2005 Most Holy Trinity	Tuesday Evening March 8, 2005 St. Francis of Assisi	May 6, 2005

Opening prayer and introductions with Fr. Tim Kidney as moderator. Thank you to Br. Bill Minkle who provided notes for the minutes.

Small group discussions were held regarding selection process recommendations for Deanery leader. Each group gave a brief report and Fr. Tim will forward the results to Diocese.

The six discussion questions from the agenda were introduced and each parish discussed them in order to identify the main concerns. Some of these same issues were addressed in the following ministerial groups during the 45 minutes allotted: Administration, Youth, Hispanic, Catechetics and Outreach.

Each group then reported its concerns:

- Administration
 - Stewardship is a concern (the “Wichita, Kansas model” was mentioned)
 - Annual Diocesan Appeal (ADA) is seen as way too high
 - Sacramental preparation classes costs should be standardized within Deanery
- Youth
 - Lack of funds coming from Diocese
 - Collaboration with Diocese and not a duplication of services
 - Youth ministry be integrated with catechetics
 - Parish funds should come from stewardship not fund-raising (takes away energy)
 - Diocesan representative(s) should come to Deanery not visa-versa.



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- Hispanic
 - Catechesis is needed for the Hispanic people
 - Catechesis is needed for the English speaking priests and ministers to further cultural understanding
 - Catechesis is needed for the English speaking people for same reason
 - Hispanic people give more in “time & talent” which is often not accounted for
 - Minority groups don’t often get “prime time” Masses though this can be seen as a process of arriving
 - ILM graduates aren’t always being used in parish ministry
- Catechetics
 - The question of capacity at Masses and catechetical programs was discussed
 - There is room in most parishes at least at some of the Masses
 - Catechesis programs are fairly full and a need for more catechists was expressed
 - Bilingual catechetical resources are a great help but availability can be limited (esp. Asian-English)
 - How will we develop parish leadership within the next 5 years?
 - How do we “let people go” who have volunteered too long?
- Outreach
 - Each parish mentioned their methods among which were
 - Social Justice Commission
 - Direct service to the poor
 - Young-adult visits to homes
 - Feeding those in need at County operated facilities
 - Programs are evaluated for changes, good or bad.

Deanery Youth Program

Will Sousa provided the following report on the Youth Internship program:

- The need to develop leadership was recognized last April/ May and a grant application process was begun
- The Cooperative provided a \$5000
- Dennis Scott was hired as program coordinator
- Twenty-one (21) “interns” from the six (6) parishes were identified.

The hope is to assess the individual needs of each intern and tailor the training accordingly. A stipend to each intern depends upon the awarding of grant money. If no grant is awarded then the interns may be asked to pay for the training. The assessment survey should take place in Dec/ Jan and the training itself in the spring. Bilingual for Spanish/English should be available. Parishes need to have a contact person and should be in touch with Dennis Scott. Contact Will Souza, Fr. Tim Kidney or Joe Swyt if you have special needs or concerns.



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An open discussion ensued in order to identify a couple of main concerns that might be addressed in our Deanery this upcoming year. The following concerns surfaced:

1. Leadership development and the ILM will be discussed at our next Deanery Staff meeting to be held **January 21, 2005 at Most Holy Trinity**. (Please bring a check to defray hosting expenses)
2. The question of Stewardship and the Diocesan Pastoral Plan will be discussed with the Bishop at our meeting scheduled for **March 8, 2005**
3. Youth Ministry at the Deanery level will be addressed at our meeting scheduled for **May 6, 2005**.

We concluded by noting one of each parish's successes within the past year:

- St. Francis: *Generations of Faith* family catechesis program
- Christ the King: Parish availability and collaboration with various groups in the area.
- John Vianney: The improvement in music ministry.
- Most Holy Trinity: The implementation of a monthly Youth Mass.
- Our Lady of Guadalupe: The development of a Youth Ministry 2-year plan.
- St. Maria Goretti: The coordination and re-structuring of their leadership program.