



MULTIPARISH COOPERATIVE SERVICE GROUP

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

SOUTHEAST DEANERY MEETING

February 14, 2003

St. Francis of Assisi Gathering Space

Attendees: (26)

St. Francis of Assisi: John Sandersfeld, Joe Swyt, Will Sousae, Ginny Hinkle, Anna Cruz, Jim Degnan, Joanne Sterbentz, Stan Fitzgerald

Most Holy Trinity: Clara Morales, Nancy Finkeldei

St. John Vianney: Larry Hendel, Art Yabes, Joe Alvarez, Linh Hoang

St. Maria Goretti: Kevin Joyce, Joe Pacquing, Victor Espinoza, Bro. Bill Farrell, Sr.

Catherine Dang, Sr. Catherine Thoeni, Jeanne Gaffney, Sr. Miriam Fahey

Our Lady of Guadalupe: Rene Juarez, Connie Torres

Christ the King: Robert Brocato

St. John Baptist: Norman Segovia,

Next Deanery Meetings

- Clergy Meeting: Friday, March 14, 10:30 am at Most Holy Trinity
- Clergy and Staffs Meeting: Friday, April 11, 10:30 AM to 1:30 PM at St. Francis

Multicultural Challenges to Parish Life: The Views of Three Pastors

Fr. Rene Juarez (Our Lady of Guadalupe)

1. Weekly Mass attendance rose 10% in the last year to 5000 (20% English-speaking; 80% Spanish-speaking)
2. Now offer three (3) English Masses and four (4) Spanish Masses
3. Filipinos attending in larger numbers; a monthly Tagalog Mass was added in 200
4. Three large youth groups are in place and there is a need for a full-time bilingual youth minister
5. Parish is now serving 1500 needy families weekly
6. The Parish suffers from a lack of facilities. A new hall and classrooms are sorely needed.

Fr. John Sandersfeld (St. Francis of Assisi)

1. St. Francis was started in 1992 with mostly Anglo & 2nd generation Hispanics.
2. The parish is now 75% Filipino
3. 400 new families were added last year
4. The parish is decentralized with ten (10) Ecclesial Communities, each with own personality and character and each providing its own ministers from its members



MULTIPARISH COOPERATIVE SERVICE GROUP

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

5. There are over 650 volunteers and lay leaders involved in parish service
6. The model is labor intensive for staff and is focused on “intentional relationships”
7. Each ecclesial community has taken on a social justice project of its own selection
8. Stewardship is a real challenge. Many are not contributing according to their ability even after an intensive Stewardship campaign.
9. The Parish debt is \$6.1 million
10. Many seniors who have been the mainstay of the parish have lost 40-60% of their investments and are becoming the new poor.
11. The parish could soon become mainly Filipino and Vietnamese
12. The parish has supported sending members to the ILM which has greatly helped form new parish leaders, especially among Filipinos

Fr. Larry Hendel (St. John Vianney)

1. St. John was founded in 1952 and is now entering its "mid-years"
2. It has grown from 700 to 3500 families although parish population has been decreasing since 1996
3. The Parish was largely Anglo & Eng-speaking Hispanics & Portuguese.
4. Now the parish is 30% Anglo; 30% Hispanic and 30% Asian
5. Most leadership is old and there is a need to raise up new leaders
6. With shrinking staff it is difficult to organize volunteers and form the essential teams
7. The Parish needs more space and a building campaign is underway to build a new hall/gym/classrooms for \$6.5 million but only \$2 million raised to date
8. The parish has a “double school” with 50% parishioners and 50% non-parishioners.
9. The parish has more registered parishioners than those who attend mass

Deanery Updates

1. Deanery Cooperative funding request has been submitted for \$110k from diocesan. Implementation fund to support the new concept in deanery cooperation where personnel will be shared among six (6) parishes in the areas of:
 - a. Finance/Accounting/Janitorial and maintenance services
 - b. Information/telecommunications services
 - c. Group purchasing
 - d. Pastoral projects, e.g., the current bi-annual ministry training program scheduled for Feb 21-22 and March 14-15. Current 380 parishioners from the different parishes will go through the Basic Ministry Formation organized by the staffs of St. Francis and St. Maria Goretti. Our plan is



MULTIPARISH COOPERATIVE SERVICE GROUP

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

that the parishes of the deanery will offer the training twice a year in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese

2. Cultural Diversity and Parish Ministry Course, March 20-21 at St. Joachim Parish in Hayward -- offered by the Loyola Pastoral Life Center. Investigates pluralism and diversity in the local faith community as both gifts and challenges. Contact Will Sousae for information 408-223-1562.
3. Social Justice Roundtable facilitated by Stan Fitzgerald of St. Francis of Assisi. The group is exploring how the parishes of the deanery are promoting Catholic Social Teaching, justice and charity projects. First gathering was held last month with sharing of what the parishes are doing. Now we will pursue how we can collaborate.
4. Parish Computer System (PCS) Database by David Bruce of Service Ministries
 - a. A system to track parishioners which is more useful than PDS
 - i. tracks sacramental data, contributions, registrations, etc.
 - ii. direct link to diocesan database and ADA
 - iii. links all parish departments and offices
 - iv. ministry scheduling, school & CCD programs
 - v. parish calendar, facilities scheduling
 - vi. E-MAIL integration
 - vii. Discounted price from \$2800 to \$1800 for us; \$6000 total cost includes training
 - viii. For more information call David Bruce 831-419-3086
5. Grant Writing services available for parishes with worthy projects. Contact Jim Degnan 408-887-7742
6. Deanery Marriage Convalidation Program this Spring with five (5) sessions scheduled for group weddings. Contact Fr. John Sandersfeld at 223-1562.
7. New St. Vincent de Paul Center opening on Story Road near McLaughlin with drop-in center, clothing shop, drop-in clinic, training for LVNs.

Action Items for Next Meetings:

During the past five months, the Deanery and Cooperative taken steps to organize and facilitate the Pastoral Plan priorities in Lay Leadership Development and Social Justice ministry. The next meetings will now focus on Youth and Young Adult programs.

At the next Staff Deanery Meeting on April 11, 2003, each parish is invited to present an overview and recap of:

- Their youth programs and proposal for future developments
- Social Justice updates
- Ministry formation program evaluation
- Business Offices roundtable recap



MULTIPARISH COOPERATIVE SERVICE GROUP

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

Evaluation of Staff Deanery Meeting

1. Pastor reports are helpful
2. Change time of meetings to 10:30 am-1:30 pm.
3. Invite Bishop McGrath and representatives from other deaneries to the next meeting so they can see how the deanery cooperative operates
4. Need action items at the end of each meeting
5. Presenters of these summaries should submit their presentations beforehand on 1 page allowing for easier analysis and discussion
6. The members liked the prior meeting format of breakouts for small group work. They prefer LESS REPORTING AND MORE INTERACTION.