



## MULTIPARISH COOPERATIVE SERVICE GROUP

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

### **Minutes of last Deanery Meeting under Fr. Eddie's Deanship and first under Fr. Francisco's Deanship MHT's Trinity Center, June 6, 2007**

Present were: **SFOA** - Rev. Msgr. John Sandersfeld, Will Sousae, Susan Votaw, Stan Fitzgerald  
**MHT** - Rev. Eddie Samaniego, SJ, Fr. Lan Ngo, SJ, Bro. James Sanders, SJ;  
Sal Rojas, Ruben Solorio, Thess Alcantara  
**SMG** - Rev. Steven Brown; Rev. Msgr. Dominic Do, Rev. Walter Suarez, Sr. Catherine Dang  
**SJV** - Rev. Francisco Rios, Rev. Eddie Obero, Deacon Joe Alvarez, Linda Rokita,  
Raul Mendoza  
**OLG** - Rev. Bill Minkel  
**SPC** - Rev. Peter Phan, Rev. Victor Tran  
**CTK** - Rev. Robert Broccato, Rev. Paul Cuong Pham  
**HC & BAPM** - no representatives

Fr. Eddie Samaniego called the meeting to order at 10:40 am. Fr. Eddie led the opening prayer. Everybody present at that time introduced themselves and the parish they come from. Minutes of the May 11 meeting was reviewed, Fr. Robert moved for it to be approved and it was approved.

#### **Announcements** from Fr. Eddie:

- a. This is the last Deanery meeting under his term as Dean and later Fr. Francisco shall take over.
- b. Still looking for an Administrator for the Multi-Parish Coop to take over the reins from Bro. Jim.
- c. We have Stan Fitzgerald and Susan Votaw to clue us in on Social Justice and Immigration issues the way they are being addressed in our parishes and in the Diocese.
- d. We also have Will Sousae and Ruben Solorio to give us an update on the Youth Internship Program going on its 3<sup>rd</sup> year.
- e. Fr. Bill Minkel later on will discuss about the upcoming Called & Gifted Workshop.

Fr. John reported on the Basic Formation Program and the plan is to have it on 1/12/08 and 1/26/08. Linda Rokita, Raul Mendoza and Sr. Catherine Dang submitted reports on the recent Workshop with positive and innovative reviews for future workshops.

Linda Rokita spoke on the Called & Gifted Workshop which is scheduled for Aug. 10 & 11 at the St. Francis Gathering Space. Linda's personal experience is discernment tools are very helpful in volunteer work and even outside ministry like in the home. Fr. Bill may add more insights later as he has implemented this at OLG. Called and Gifted brochures were handed out by Linda for dissemination to the parishes.

Fr. John invited everyone about Theology Live tonight, June 6<sup>th</sup>, at St. Francis to be presented by Sr. Mary Litell the topic "The Path of Non-Violence; the Christian Way." Susan Votaw is in charge and these are like follow-up to ILM graduates. Wine, cheese and crackers will be served according to Fr. John. Anyone and everyone can submit topics that can be addressed.



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Stan Fitzgerald spoke in depth about Social Justice and gave out materials on Advocacy and Immigration. Fr. Robert said in their high Latino populace, immigration forums, poster-signing campaign appear to be effective in informing the parishioners. Ruben Solorio commented that it is Fear vs Faith issue. Fr. Peter said it has to be welcoming. Ruben suggested for the Deanery to send a representative to CCIR and a rep from them can also be invited to the Deanery meetings.

Stan said it is outreach and Sr. Mary Peter said it is a global perspective. Fr. Steve asked why? Why scripturally the Catholic Church is talking about Immigration? The groundwork should be laid down and needs to be explained to the community-the moral and spiritual basis/perspective. Handouts from the USCCB entitled "Justice for Immigrants: A Journey of Hope" were handed out by Stan and suggested to have it inserted in the bulletins.

Ruben suggested to have Elizabeth Lilly from the Catholic Charities to talk about Social Justice work. Linda asked "What is the Deanery's collaborative effort geared to? We cannot compromise another group's agenda who are already dealing with Social Justice issues. Different parish groups need leadership to get the synergy together and out there. Fr. John added "it should be a corporate (deanery) voice not only one individual or a specific parish but the deanery as a whole." The Inter-faith Committee and the CCIR at the Diocese are not fully functional. Stan said "the absence of a complete thrust by the Diocese is good so parishes can be doing it on their own and put something together." Bro. Jim mentioned "Jesus Himself in Matthew 25 supports the Good Samaritan."

Will and Ruben are willing to continue the Youth and Young Adult Program. The 6 parishes agreed to put in \$1,875 for funding the Youth Internship Program. Two parishes have to be checked out OLG and HC. Ruben will inquire if there is a national certificate for this. Also, Fr. Francisco will write up a letter to the Catholic Foundation of Santa Clara County who handles the Capital Campaign to see where a grant can be obtained.

### **WORKING LUNCH – Turn over of Deanship to Fr. Francisco Rios**

Some other priests and personalities are moving out of the Deanery like Fr. Richard Hilliard, Fr. Victor Tran who is going to St. Elizabeth, Will Sousae who will be Director of the Diocesan Cemeteries.

The next meeting will be in September TBA.

Our new Dean, Fr. Francisco Rios, led the closing prayers.