



MULTIPARISH COOPERATIVE SERVICE GROUP

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

To: Cooperative Pastors and Attendees
From: Joseph F. Swyt
Re: Santee Mission
Meeting Minutes March 18, 2004
Date: March 20, 2004

A Cooperative Meeting was held at Most Holy Trinity to review the current status of the Santee Mission, address the next steps required to sustain the mission and identify a team to resolve the issue of new facilities for the mission.

The meeting was convened at 2:30 pm. Following discussion, there was unanimous agreement on the importance of the Mission, the success of the Sisters, the need for a new facility for Sunday liturgy, and the continuation of the program. An action plan was established, a team was formed and the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm

Attendees: Cooperative Pastors: Fathers Robert Brocato, Rene Juarez, Kevin Joyce, Eddie Samaniego, John Sandersfeld; Fr. Francisco Rios, Br. Jim Sanders, Sr. Catherine, Sr. Miriam, Victor Espinoza, Joe Swyt, Mil Doan and Cora Tomalinas.

Next Meeting: Thursday, April 22, 2003
St. Maria Goretti, Room D-E
1:00 PM

(At the same meeting we will address the question of Vietnamese Ministry at 12:00 noon. Lunch will be provided at 12:00)

The Sisters presented a status report of the Mission:

- The Sisters have been doing the work of the Church at the Mission for nine years.
- There are perhaps 2,000 people in the Santee area (mostly Catholic and poor immigrants), with another 15,000 people in the area bordered by 280 –Tully, 101 – Monterey Hwy.
- Sr. Miriam commits to continue her work with the Mission through 2009 and Sr. Catherine for two more years
- This Mission is the first stop for Mexican families after crossing the border.
- New members come to live with family members now here, they are transitory and as soon as they better themselves they move out.
- Currently there are 70 children in First Communion and 20 in Confirmation preparation
- The Sisters maintain a children's library for after school use, provide set up for Sunday mass, have organized a choir, provide ESL classes
- They serve 260 families and have 320 regular mass attendance
- The Sisters spend four hours each every Sunday with set up for the liturgy
- Through the generosity of Cooperative parishes and others in the deanery, the Mission has a cash balance sufficient to fund the Mission for four to six months.



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Mil Doan is a member of the Franklin McKinley Foundation Agency providing educational and youth services for children through age 14. Cora, Mil and the Sisters are founders of the agency. Cora has been an activist in the area as a member of St. Maria Goretti for years and is a member of several boards serving the community.

The urgent issue facing the mission at this time is the need to move out of the current facilities used for Sunday Mass on June 1. A new facility must be located with the first choice being Fair Middle School.

The following resolutions were passed:

1. Cooperative pastors elected Fr. John to represent the Cooperative and work with the Santee team in developing a facilities plan for the Mission, including locating a new Sunday mass location and other facilities for the Mission. Serving on the committee is Fr. John, Fr. Robert, Mil, Cora, the Sisters, Victor and Joe.
2. A long range plan for the Mission must be developed, including:
 - a. Budgets:
 - i. FY2004
 - ii. FY2005
 - b. Funding
 - i. By the Mission members through offertory and stewardship
 - ii. By the Cooperative parishes in a shared responsibility
 - iii. By the Parish Mutual Assistance Fund
 - c. Organization:
 - i. Longer term succession planning
 - ii. Establishment of a Parish Council
 - d. Cooperative Parish support
 - i. Possibly Youth Interns to assist the Sisters
 - ii. Involve Social Justice teams in Cooperative parishes
 - iii. Sunday Liturgy Support
3. Because of the transitory nature of the people, this is not a “stable community” and therefore the Mission will continue to operate as an Ecclesial Community under St. Marie Goretti parish, financially and organizationally supported by the Cooperative parishes.
4. Cooperative parishes agreed to continue providing support to Mission, to the best of their ability.
5. Fr. Steve Brown, the new pastor of St. Maria Goretti, will serve as the replacement for Fr. Rios until he establishes a permanent Presider for the Mission