

7-Parish Vocations Committee Notes November 13, 2024

Present: **Holy Cross:** Mary Ann DeLucenay, **Our Mother of Sorrows:** Rick Cammilleri, **St. Charles Borromeo:** Mark Stechschulte, **St. John the Evangelist:** Rick Paoletti, **St. Lawrence:** Deacon Ed Giblin, **St. Leo the Great:** Neil Combs (by phone), **St. Mark's:** Lorraine Vancour, **Facilitator/Link to the Pastoral Planning Task Force:** Karen Rinefierd

Purpose of this group: to develop and implement strategies for the 7 parishes to work together to encourage vocations—in general, to the priesthood/diaconate, to religious life, to lay ecclesial ministry

Opening prayer: Psalm 16, intercessory prayers, Our Father

Update on the work of the Pastoral Planning Task Force

- Karen encouraged everyone to attend one of the parishioner meetings on Wednesday, November 20.

Evaluation of 10/3 Holy Hour and presentation on the permanent diaconate

- Thanks to all those who contributed: those who brought food (we had a feast which served as dinner for most who attended the presentation); to Ed for organizing, publicity through the diocese and the diaconal community, and his informational presentation. Dcn. Frank Pettrone and members of St. Mark's also were generous with their time.
- Two of the men who came had already spoken with Ed, while the other two were new.
- Interactions were good.
- It helped having present long-time and newer permanent deacons with their wives as well as the widow of a deacon. People got a good sense of the support and community within the diaconal family.
- Ed said that this evening will be replicated 12/10 at St. Patrick's in Elmira for the southern tier.

Fostering vocations to the priesthood—the Fisher Dinner on Monday, December 30 at Our Mother of Sorrows

- The evening begins with Mass in the church at 5:30 pm followed by dinner in the parish hall.
- We are being asked to help with set up, serving, and clean up. Fr. Bill Coffas will recruit additional people to help depending on the need. He asked that those helping arrive by 3:30 to set up the room and expected that clean up would be done by 8:30 pm. He asked Karen after this meeting to send him the names and email addresses of those able to help.
- Those able to help: Mary Ann, Neil, Lorraine, Rick Paoletti, Rick Cammilleri, and Mark. Mary Ann will need a phone call with instructions.
- The 3:30 start time was questioned. Rick P. noted that he wouldn't arrive at a similar event that early even if he was doing the cooking. One hour for preparation seems sufficient. Karen will pass this feedback on to Fr. Bill.
- Questions for Fr. Bill:
 - Can we attend the Mass?
 - Does one of us need to provide plastic tablecloths?

Fostering vocations to the priesthood— “Adopt a Seminarian”

- Seminarrians designated for each parish to adopt:
 - All 7 parishes: Anthony Nicolosi (since he is a parishioner of St. Leo’s and his mother works at both St. Leo’s and St. Mark’s)
 - Holy Cross/Our Mother of Sorrows: David Cataline and Dcn. George Bastedo
 - St. Charles Borromeo: Edward Fantauzzo
 - St. John the Evangelist: Joseph Maurer
 - St. Lawrence: Charles Moskov
 - St. Leo the Great: Daniel Spears
 - St. Mark’s: Michael Piersall
- Beyond parish responsibilities, the pastoral leaders have been busy with the work of the pastoral planning task force. Ed has spoken with Fr. Chase already and offered to draft a letter explaining this effort.
- Decision to aim for this initiative after Christmas. Karen will email committee members then and send out the list of seminarrians with their addresses. Each member will speak with their pastoral leader and offer to do whatever is needed to get this started.

Develop displays about vocations for all 7 parishes (Holy Cross and Our Mother of Sorrows already have these)

- Again, we will wait until after Christmas. Karen will email the leaders (copying in committee members) with the list of suggested brochures, asking if they want her to coordinate the purchase of items.
- Neil suggested that perhaps the Knights of Columbus at St. Leo’s could cover the cost for the parish. Perhaps the other K of C councils could do the same.
- Once we have materials, committee members will assist in getting these displays created at their parishes.

Next meeting: Wednesday, January 22, in room 7 of the Borromeo Ministry Center

Closing prayer: Hail Mary