

**Diocesan Pastoral Council
Humboldt - Del Norte Deanery
Minutes
May 19, 2007
St. Mary Church, Arcata**

Present: Phil Minor, Nancy Lawrence, Gina and Dennis Costa, Lou & Pat Bull, Sr. Pat Carson, Jim Barrett, Genoveva Gomez, and Loretta Speziale

1. Meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Chairman, Dennis Costa. The group was pleased to welcome back Jim Barrett from St. Joseph Church, Crescent City. Jim has been unable to attend for several months due to the demands of his employment.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved with the following correction:

A) The Hispanic Congress held at the Humboldt County fair Grounds was a charismatic event sponsored by Eureka and Fortuna Charismatic groups. It was not a diocesan event.

3. Parish Reports :

A) Arcata - Loretta Speziale reported that 18 communicants received first communion on Mothers' Day. The annual "Pennies from Heaven" fund raising event will occur on May 20.

B) McKinleyville - Hispanic community: Nancy Lawrence reported that more Hispanic parishioners are now attending the regular Mass. A Novena was offered for a deceased parishioner and over 50 people attended each evening.

On May 18, 2007, a Rosary Procession was held in Fields Landing, processing through town and ending in a parishioner's home. It was very well attended and attracted much interest.

C) Eureka - Sacred Heart - Gina Costa reported that the "Life Cycles" program will have its final event for the year on May 20. A program evaluation will then be conducted to determine what activities should be attempted for next year. A picnic is planned for June 3.

First Communion was received by 12 students on May 6. A May Crowning of Mary was held on Mother's Day. The parish has received interest from 3 possible deaconate candidates, as well as 2 Hispanic men who have expressed an interest.

Genoveva reported the following from the Hispanic Community a) The charismatic group meets every Thursday. b) The School of San Andreas is offering short courses in religion. c) Latino Unidas is providing \$1000 for student scholarships. d) There are 3 possible deaconate candidates from Fortuna, and e) Hispanic classes for first Communion are being offered at Fortuna.

D) Hoopa - Pat Bull reported that 3 children received first communion on April 21. She also reported that several improvements were being made to the grounds and building of Blessed Kateri as a result of funds from the Catholic Extension Society. The parish will be holding its annual rummage sale on October 20, 2007. All donations are gratefully accepted.

E) Crescent City - Jim Barrett reported that his parish was blessed with the service of two priests during Fr. Ridsen's recuperation. Fr. Ridsen's health has noticeably improved. Jim also reported on improvements to the church building and noted that a new record has been set for new parishioners at St. Joseph.

F) Eureka -St. Bernard - Phil Minor reported that the repainting of all the church buildings is finally nearing completion. Unfortunately, several of the stained glass windows were found in need of repair as well. That work is now in progress. Phil also reported that the artist group at St.

Bernard will be hosting a religious art display, themed “The Feast of the Sacred Heart”, beginning June 15th and continuing at intervals throughout the summer.

4. Phil Minor and Lou bull reported on the May 5th Executive Board meeting. Highlights include the Board’s decision to place meeting minutes on the DPC website in draft form to avoid lengthy delays in posting minutes. Also, of particular interest was the parish/deanery reports of disaster preparedness classes sponsored by a particular parish.

5. Phil Minor relayed a request from Fr. Loren Allen (St. Bernard) that the Deanery Assembly assisting in a letter writing campaign to persuade the local cable television network (Suddenlink) to include EWTN Catholic programming for Humboldt-Del Norte Counties. Some local parishes are now involved in this effort. Letters should be addressed to Marketing Director, 911 W. Wabash, Eureka, CA 95501.

6. A lengthy discussion was had about the proposed visitation of the DPC Executive Board to the Humboldt area. The deanery group was enthused and quite supportive of the idea. Two possible dates were offered for such a visit, September 29/30 or October 6/7. The deanery will be pleased to welcome and assist the Exec. Board and will await further direction from the Board when its itinerary for the visitation is more complete.

7. The topic of evangelization was discussed, as it relates to the DPC plenary session and the mission which the DPC has accepted from Bishop Walsh. The deanery representatives understand that they will be receiving from the Executive Board Committee on Evangelization a questionnaire concerning the topic of evangelization. The questionnaire will be used to gather data and as a vehicle to promote discussion and assist in planning further actions to be pursued. Two documents were discussed in connection with this topic, a) Obstacles to Evangelization, and b) Strengths and Weaknesses in Sharing Faith with Others. The next deanery meeting is scheduled for August 25, 2007, at the Blessed Kateri Mission Church, Parish Hall, at 10:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.