

Diocesan Pastoral Council
Humboldt - Del Norte Deanery Minutes
October 27, 2007
St. Mary Church, Arcata

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

1. Meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m. by Chairman, Dennis Costa. The agenda, including parish reports, were provided for those who did not receive the same via e-mail.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

3. Parish Reports :

A) Arcata - St. Mary - Loretta Speziale gave a brief report on the successful Bonanza Carnival held by the parish on October 6, 2007.

B) Crescent City - St. Joseph - Jim Barrett reported that the parishioners seem quite please with the new pastor, Frank Epperson and the new seminarian, Mario Valencia. Parish activity has noticeably increased, with various classes conducted almost nightly. The English and Spanish language C.C.D. classes have been merged into one, with over 100 in attendance.

C) Eureka -St. Bernard - Phil Minor reported that, a) Fr. Foley will be conducting a spiritual retreat at St. Bernard Church beginning November 3, 2007, b) the C.C.D. program has again resumed for this year and is in need of interested adults who may be willing to act as teachers or assistants on Sunday mornings, c) there is group of ladies at the parish who are hoping to form a local group to carry on the activities previously conducted by the recently disbanded Y.L.I. Chapter, and d) beginning October 24, for 2-3 weeks, Eucharistic Adoration held at St. Bernard Church each Wednesday, 10:00 - 1:00 p.m., will be suspended to allow for the installation of a new heating system for the church.

D) Eureka - Sacred Heart - Gina and Dennis Costa reported that The Generations of Faith program has now resumed, with Fr. Luis Penalosa presenting the first session. This years topics are The Seven Sacraments. A meal is shared before each session. The following are the scheduled presenters: Nov. 11 & 13, Sister Olive - Holy Matrimony; Dec. 9 & 11, Brother Fred Buermann - Holy Orders; Jan. 13 & 15, Fr. Eric Freed - Baptism; Feb. 10 & 12, Fr. Tom Diaz - Reconciliation; March 9 & 11, Deacon Ray Noll - Eucharist; April 13 & 14, Stan Cordero - Confirmation.

Confirmation classes are under way with 21 attending , both from Sacred Heart and St. Bernard parishes. Fr. Luis, with the help of 3 laity, are conducting classes each Monday night.

The L.I.N.K. group is hosting the holiday craft bazaar on Nov. 17th.

The finance Committee presented the "State of the Parish" at all the Masses last weekend and distributed a financial summary.

New ministry chairpersons have stepped forward and Fr. Luis hosted a dinner meeting for them to get acquainted, on October 24th.

Sacred Heart - Hispanic - Genoveva Gomez reported that the fall Congress entitled "Dia de la Luz" has been cancelled due to insufficient advanced registrations.

Plans are being discussed for combining the Spanish and English C.C.D. classes. Plans are moving forward for "our Lady of Guadalupe celebration on Dec. 12th. Las Mananitas will be at 5:00 a.m., with Mass at 7:00 p.m.

The Hispanic group is selling tamales to raise funds for the C.C.D. program and for other Hispanic program needs. There are currently 6 adult participants in the C.C.D. program.

E) McKinleyville - Christ The King - Hispanic - Nancy Lawrence reported Unidos por Cristo Rey continues to pray the Rosary to Our Lady of Guadalupe every Friday evening. Fr. Stephen Mac Pherson says that the Mass is bringing 30-40 people on Sunday. This October the Hispanic program at Christ The King celebrates the end of its second year.

The third Congresso, September 8 & 9, brought 497 adults to the closing Mass on Sunday. Gela (Sister from Ontario), Fr. Arambula (Marian Priest from Sinaloa), and Fr. Carlos Oretaga from the Santa Rosa Diocese were there to lead us. Saturday afternoon brought a beautiful Holy Hour complete with all the old songs. Amor de Los Amores was sung by everyone.

December 12th, will be the celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

F) Hoopa - Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha - Pat Bull reported that Sr. Pat Carson has started Confirmation classes with three 7 - 9th grade students attending. Fr. Eric freed continues to say Mass once a month. Deacon Ken Bond provides Eucharistic services about twice a month, with Sr. Pat presiding over the remaining services.

The vocation cross from Fr. Tom Diaz circulates each week for parishioners who pray daily for vocations.

Over \$800 was received from the annual rummage sale on September 8th. This is start-up funding for the annual auction/dinner/drawing event. Following the sale, the residual inventory was made available to Hoopa residents in need, giving them a chance to obtain clothing, shoes, and toys they could not otherwise afford.

The parish council met September 9th and October 6th. A major topic was the planning of the annual auction/dinner/drawing event.

The October 20th annual auction/dinner/drawing event was a social and financial success. Attendance and participation in the auction continues to improve each year. Net proceeds were sufficient to cover our annual insurance bill. The first and second place drawings were won by parishioners. The first place winner gave back the money to the mission.

Our first golf tournament is scheduled for May 31, 2008, at the Willow Creek Golf Course. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend.

4. Lou Bull reported that the DPC Executive Board meeting originally scheduled to be held in Eureka on October 6, 2007, was rescheduled to be held on the same date at the home of Chairman Bob Leet. Unfortunately, no official business could be conducted at that time because a quorum was not in attendance.

5. The subject of evangelization, together with related topics, was discussed at length. A consensus of the following seven items was reached, with a request that these be brought to the attention of the DPC Executive Board for due consideration and appropriate action.

A) A final report from the Plenary Session is needed to aggregate and preserve the many ideas and suggestions discussed at that meeting and to provide impetus for moving forward with the next phase of our evangelization efforts.

B) A clarification is needed from the Bishop as to which group within the diocese is taking the lead in formulating proposals for evangelization. If it is not the DPC, then what role does the DPC have?

C) Our deanery, and perhaps others, feels that a greater effort is needed to insure that the Bishop is present and participating in DPC meetings and activities to insure his active role in the reciprocal communication between the Chancery and the parishioners via the DPC.

D) An important element of any evangelization effort will be to insure that parishioners have ready access to education and guidance concerning the basic tenets of the faith, whenever questions may arise in the course of evangelizing.

E) The two surveys which were recently distributed to the deaneries for response by the DPC Representatives would likely be of marginal value to parishioners.

F) The DPC Executive Board would do well to produce a report, for all deaneries, summarizing successful evangelization programs from other dioceses.

G) For the most part, evangelization should proceed as a natural outreach process through our many Catholic service programs.

6. The next deanery meeting is scheduled for January 12, 2008 at St. Mary Church, Arcata The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.