

SANTA ROSA DIOCESAN PASTORAL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE BOARD

Memorandum to the Record

The DPC Executive Board met in Special Session on Saturday, October 4, 2008, 9:00AM-12N at the Chancery. The purpose of the Session was to discuss the future of the DPC, and to develop a project actively involving the 'people-in-the-pews' (PIPS).

Present: Lou Bull, Treasurer; Pat Bull new H/DN Representative; Steve Ericson; Vice Chair and Presiding; Yvette Fallandy, Ex. Sec.; Lou Marabella, Guest; Julie Parnow, new SS Representative.

1. Yvette invoked the spirit of St Francis on the Meeting.
2. Steve welcomed new Representatives Pat and Julie.
3. Yvette distributed the following:
 - 3.1. Bishop Walsh Homily on our Diocesan Priest Shortage, Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time, St Eugene Cathedral.*
 - 3.2. A Memo from Dennis Costa, Chair, H/DN, on the Priest Shortage in H/DN.*
 - 3.3. A Memo from Tom & Michele Savage, Chairs, SS, declaring their Representatives disenchantment with the DPC.*
 - 3.4. A Memo from Phil Minor, recent H/DN Ex. Bd Representative urging that "we must redirect ourselves to that which we can accomplish. . . ." and that the DPC not be abandoned.*
 - 3.5. A Memo from Bob Leet to the DPC Ex. Bd proposing a project to engage PIPS in encouraging vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life.*
4. Yvette outlined the current precarious status of the DPC, insisted that a project actively engaging the PIPS is urgently needed to revitalize it, and urged consideration of the Bob's Memo.
5. Len Marabella described his Task Force for a Diocesan Policy for Lay Parish Administrators as a possible alternative to our current 'from-PIPS (Parish)-to-Deaneries-Ex. Bd-&-back' *modus operandi*: interested participant develop a project for Deanery-Ex. Bd approval (Deaneries would continue as discussion-opinion *fora*).
6. Steve cited Warren Buffet's recent metaphor: "We're like a patient on the floor in a hospital, and we must get him up off the floor." Our program to encourage vocations must be multifaceted. He went on to make three points:
 - 6.1. He fears splinter groups where loyalty is turned away from the Church to the group.
 - 6.2. We are not serving our youth.
 - 6.3. As a Diocese we have a tremendous opportunity, and we must open up participation [to the PIPS].
7. Julie summarized the Priest shortage, and inquired how the DPC functions.
8. There followed a discussion of Bob's Memo in which all participated. It was agreed that a project engaging PIPS in encouraging vocations to the Priesthood is not feasible at this time. The current perception of the Priesthood among many, if not most, was cited as the reason.
9. Len summarized the possibilities for project that had emerged from the discussion;
 - 9.1. Improve the image of the Church via 'God stories' as described by Fr Pettingill at the Plenary Session last March, or
 - 9.2. Elicit from PIPS their perception of their role in the Church (Pat: "Why I am here at Mass").
10. Next Executive Board Meeting, Sat. Nov. 8, 2008, 9AM-12N, Chancery.
11. Steve led the closing prayer.
12. Adjournment: 12N.

• Previously distributed and attached to the Archival Copy of the Record.