

7-Parish Vocations Committee

Notes July 15, 2025

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. Mark's:** Lorraine Vancour,
Facilitator/Link to the Pastoral Planning Task Force: Karen Rinefierd

Excused: **St. Leo the Great:** Neil Combs

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: Gen 18:1-10a, intercessory prayers, Our Father

Update on the new Roc Catholics Northwest Steering Committee: Karen Rinefierd

- The committee will coordinate collaboration among the seven parishes.
- Members are the two deans, Fr. Lee Chase and Fr. William Coffas; Dcn. Frank Pettrone, our local pastoral administrator; Dcn. Ed Giblin representing the Vocations Committee; Marianne Katz representing the Evangelization Committee; and Dcn. David Squilla, administrator of the Roc Catholics Northwest website.
- The Steering Committee had its first meeting in June and plans to meet two to three times per year.

Fostering vocations to the priesthood—“Adopt a Seminarian”

- Seminarians designated for each parish to adopt this past school year:
 - 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
- Vocations Committee members wrote individually to Anthony and whomever was designated for their parish. Lorraine and Mary Ann received thank you notes from the seminarians they contacted. Lorraine brought copies of the July 13 St. Mark's bulletin which included an article about our seminarians as well as the note from Michael Piersall.
- Mary Ann attended David Cataline's ordination as deacon. Karen noted that Dcn. David Cataline will preach at the 5:00 PM Mass at Holy Cross on Saturday, August 16 and at the 11:00 AM Mass at Our Mother of Sorrows on August 17.
- We will start a group-wide effort in September. Ed prepared a draft bulletin article explaining this initiative to parishioners. It will be adapted to each parish and in bulletins at the end of September. Karen will ask Fr. Coffas for the list of this year's seminarians when it is ready.

Parish vocations displays for all 7 parishes

- Displays are up at all parishes.
- Mary Ann brought the materials from the Sisters of Mercy and distributed them among our members to include in the parish displays.
- We need to find ways to communicate about the existence of the displays more effectively.
- There are good resources in the displays when someone inquires about a vocation, including information about preparing for marriage.

Planning for 2025-2026

Sponsor another diocesan Fisher Dinner for those interested in learning more about becoming a priest

- Fr. Bill Coffas had asked if we wanted to sponsor the December 2025 one. There was agreement to do this, assuming that it would be held at one of our seven parishes.
- Action: Rick Camilleri will communicate this to Fr. Bill.

Sponsor another Holy Hour to pray for vocations followed by an informational session for men and their wives interested in learning more about the permanent diaconate

- Decision to do this. We will await a date from Dcn. Ed Giblin's office.
- Tentative location St. Lawrence.
- We will hand out prayer cards for vocations.

Education about lay ecclesial ministry

- Ed suggested this focus since most ministerial positions in our parishes beyond those for clergy are assumed by laypersons.
- Most of our parishioners have never heard the term "lay ecclesial minister." They may not realize that laypersons are trained and paid.
- We still need a brochure about lay ecclesial ministry. Karen had reached out to the USCCB with no response. Action: She will take the information available on their website in an FAQ, put it into a brochure format, and seek their permission to print.
- We can use the bulletin and possibly parish social media to educate people. We can ask staff members to write about what they do, how they came to their vocation, etc.
- Action: Before our next meeting, Karen will compile a list of the laypersons who work in our parishes in areas other than finance, operations, and human resources.

Next meeting: Wednesday, September 24, 7:00 PM, in room 7 of the Borromeo Ministry Center

Closing prayer: Hail Mary