Voice of the Faithful of NJ  
Coordinating Team Minutes  
September 21, 2019

**Present:** Mary Aktay, Theresa Padovano, Bob Hoatson, Gerry & Mary Gannon, Bernice Anglin, Juanita & Charlie Saco, Mary Murphy, Bob Pipchick, Carole & Leo Rogers

**Prayer:** Charlie read prayers from Joyce Rupp and Dorothy Day on the importance of hospitality in building a prayerful community.

**Sunday Program:** Gerry agreed to sell Sr. Catherine Nerny’s book at $15 each. Mary G. will bring snacks. Charlie will bring water and cups. Leo & Carole will take Sr. Catherine and her companion to dinner at Fiore’s and invited anyone who wishes to come along. Mary A. and Leo will coordinate the microphones.

**October Speaker:** Massimo Faggiolli will be our speaker on October 27th. His topic is Schism or Synod. Hopefully we can, in addition to the usual publicity receive a “stand-alone“ flier which we can send to those who might be interested far enough before his talk to give them adequate notice. Is there also some way of reaching theology students in St. E’s and Drew?

**Support Priests of Integrity:** Should we write a letter of support to Pope Francis since so many right-wing bishops and organizations are declaring their opposition to what he has been doing? Lengthy discussion ensued with final agreement to have Theresa and Mary M. frame such a letter.

**Book Discussion:** We had another long analysis of a variety of books and decided on Joan Chittester’s latest one, *The Time Is Now.* This discussion will take place on March 22nd.

**Retreat Suggestions:** Rabbi Rami, who synthesizes Buddhism, Christianity, and the Jewish faith was suggested by Mary A. and Bernice. He also brings humor into his presentations. Numerous other ideas were suggested and those making them were asked to find out about the fees involved and to determine if these resource people actually gave retreats vs. regular speaking engagements.

**December Possibility:** Would Ken Lasch read and discuss some of the poetry from his book *Winter Souls-Tice?* Mary A. will check with him regarding dates.

**RAMP Update:** They are dividing into small groups to work on various projects such as guiding a new family, and working with ICE detainees. It is increasingly difficult to get new families to come here due to government regulations. The mosques have been most helpful in finding jobs for those who are here.
**Victim/Survivor Report:** Seton Hall University sponsored a study of the abuse at the seminary but only reported on that done by Archbishop McCarrick. Bob is asking for the full report to be made public. He also described misdeeds of many more bishops, financial problems being hidden and a variety of coverups.

**Financial Report:** Bob P. circulated a report of receipts and expenditures for 2019 as well as the relevant bank reports. He gave them to Mary M. to be kept with the minutes. We have $8,786.29 in our bank account. Bob was asked to give an end-of-year report to Tina for the website. We also need to decide on our annual donations at the next meeting.

**Next Meeting:** Saturday, November 2, 2019 9AM