

Voice of the Faithful of N.J. Coordinating Team Minutes

April 21, 2018

Present: Charlie & Juanita Saco, Jane Bonar, Tina Genest, Theresa Padovano, Bob Hoatson, Bunny Mondare, Carole & Leo Rogers, Mary Aktay, Mary Murphy

Prayer: Charlie read a prayer from *Prayers Without Borders, Ed. By Barbara Balenger.*

Meeting Evaluation: Very good attendance numbers and interest in the speaker. John Dear gave an energetic, interesting presentation but the picture he painted of hopes for peace were not optimistic. He is highly committed to the cause.

Future Possible Topics: The discussion was lengthy and included a hard look at our goals as a group. Topics were Peace & Justice, Prophets, and Seminary Training Changes. We agreed on Prophets as they pertain to spirituality and religion. The program committee will meet in May to discuss possible speakers and prepare an outline of their thoughts to be sent by email to all team members. They will make some contacts if possible with potential speakers during the summer. Theresa is stepping down as chair of that group and Leo will become the new chair. She will remain a member of it. She was congratulated by all for doing a fine job for the many years she has led the committee.

Panel on Future Priesthood: Theresa will send the program summary to Cardinal Tobin with a request for a local synod of laity and theologians on this topic.

Finances: Bob P. could not attend but sent a written report for this month and a summary of the past year for the website.

Membership: The annual request for member renewal was sent out last month. Tina reported that \$3545.00 has been raised to date.

National VOTF Conference: This will be held on October 6th in Providence R.I. The three main speakers are Marie Collins, Prof. Massimo Faggioli, and Rev. William Clark, all very sought after as

speakers across the country. Theresa is thinking of going so contact her if you are planning to attend.

Survivor News: Bob H. informed us that Diane Williams will talk about the NY bill to extend the statute of limitations tonight. Hopefully, this will help passage of the bill.

The NJ bill may have even more of a chance for passage. There is a rally at the state house in Trenton on 4/30 at 11:30 AM for this.

Bob distributed copies of a letter the Whistleblowers sent to Cardinal DiNardo, President of the US Conference of Bishops concerning the need for revisions to the Charter and the Essential Norms for the Protection of Children and Young People.

Liturgy: Peg could not attend, but sent a request that people be encouraged to send topics for the opening prayer of intentionality to her the week before the Mass and she will be glad to formulate an appropriate petition prayer.

Charlie and Juanita will be away for the May liturgies so Tina will be responsible for the music and Theresa and Janet will help with the set up.

RAMP: Leo announced that the father of RAMP's Syrian family now has a full-time job. He also told us that RAMP received a \$9571 donation from St. Vincent Martyr Church as a result of the congregation's Lenten offering.

Picnic: Our annual picnic will be held at Mary Aktay's on Saturday, 8/18 at 1 PM.

Next Meeting: Saturday, 9/22 at Padovanos' at 9 AM

Submitted by:

Mary Murphy