



Diocese of Springfield

Committee for the Continuing Education, Formation and Support of Clergy
DioSpringfieldCEFSC.org

TO: Diocesan Presbyterate

FROM: Fr. Warren J. Savage, Chairperson

DATE: February 19, 2019

RE: *Cultivating Unity* Post-Convocation Focus Groups' Report

FOCUS GROUP THREE: IDEOLOGICAL/GENERATIONAL DIFFERENCES

Co-Facilitators:

Fr. William Pomerleau (frbillp@comcast.net)

Fr. Thomas Shea (tomshea40@gmail.com)

Minutes February 19, 2019

The meeting began at 2 p.m. at St. Stanislaus Friary. Present were Joe Bayne OFM Conv, Michael Kokoska, Robert Miskell, Bill Pomerleau, Tom Shea.

The minutes were reviewed.

The group highlighted five action points that would be developed at future meetings.

1. It is important that priests develop a spirit of charity toward one another.
2. Priests learn the art of "fraternal correction" as a way of addressing areas of difference and/or conflict.
3. The avoidance of gossip must be given a priority.
4. The bishop as caring "father" is central to the life of the priests.
5. Care needs to be given to first assignments. The finances of the parish should not be a factor. Discussion between the pastor and the parochial vicar would be helpful to assure compatibility.

The next meeting will be at St. Stanislaus March 19 at 2 p.m. If you have additional action items, please suggest them. In addition, we will develop strategies to implement those that have been suggested.