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Diocese of Springfield

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

TO: Bishop Mitchell T. Rozanski
Members of the Committee for the Continuing Education and Support of Clergy

FROM: Fr. Warren J. Savage, Chairperson

DATE: April 12, 2019

RE: Summary Report of the April 9, 2019 Meeting

The Committee for the Continuing Education, Formation and Support of Clergy met on Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at The Elms College (15 Gaylord Street, Conference Room), Chicopee, MA.

Members Present: Fr. Warren Savage, Chairperson, Fr. Piotr Calik, Fr. Michael Lillpopp, Fr. James Nolte, Deacon Paul Briere, Deacon Roger Carrier, Deacon Don Philip, and Deacon Dan Romanello. **Excused**

Absence: Fr. Mark Stelzer, Deacon Kevin McCarthy. **Guest:** Fr. Christopher Malatesta, Co-Vicar for Clergy

The meeting was called to order and opened with prayer lead by Deacon Dan Romanello.

The Summary Report of the March 19, 2019 meeting with Bishop Rozanski was accepted.

Fr. Savage welcomed Fr. Christopher Malatesta, Co-Vicar for Clergy to the meeting.

UPDATE and REVIEW: CULTIVATING UNITY POST-CONVOCATION REPORTS

The committee reviewed and discussed the recommendations from the *Focus Group on Deanery/Presbyteral Council* to restructure the deaneries of the diocese and establish guidelines/responsibilities for vicar and deans.

Action Plan: The committee recommended that before moving on the restructuring of the deaneries and discussion with the clergy that the Bishop Rozanski review and approve the proposed guidelines/responsibilities for vicars and deans.

The committee reviewed and discussed the recommendations from the *Focus Group on Intergenerational/Ideological Divide* to give more attention to the ongoing formation of the newly ordained priests and those ordained 1-5 years.

Action Plan: The committee recommended that (a.) an ongoing education and formation plan be created in collaboration with the Clergy Commission for the newly ordained that includes a trained mentor and spiritual director; (b.) a summer program be planned in collaboration with the Co-Vocation Directors on the Canonical and Pastoral Aspects of Marriage be offered the newly ordained priests; (c.) a list of certified spiritual directors be compiled. Fr. Savage will collaborate with the Co-Vicars for Clergy.

UPDATE: NEW PASTORS PROGRAM

Fr. Piotr Calik provided a summary report of his meeting with Bishop Rozanski after our March 14, 2019 meeting to discuss the ongoing education and formation of clergy. Fr. Piotr outlined the Bishop's priorities as follows:

- Deacons and priests need to have spiritual directors.
- Need for separate ongoing formation programs for the priests and deacons.
- Newly ordained priests must attend a special program during the summer with members from the Human Resource Department and Tribunal.
- Priests in their third year of ordination are required to attend the five-day New Pastors' Program at St. Mary's Seminary & University, Baltimore, MD. The fall program will be held November 3-8, 2019.

Action Plan: (a.) Fr. Piotr will work with the Diocesan Tribunal to create a summer program for the newly ordained priests. (b.) Fr. Piotr will meet with the Bishop to determine which priest(s) will be required to attend the Program for New Pastors in the fall 2019. (c.) Deacon Roger Carrier will work with the Diaconal Council to create a Program to train deacons for Parish Administration.

UPDATE: WEBSITE FOR THE CONTINUING EDUCATION, FORMATION AND SUPPORT OF CLERGY (CEFSC)

Deacon Roger Carrier will continue to update the website with resources for ongoing education and formation.

UPDATE: DEANERY LUNCHEONS WITH REPRESENTATIVE FROM CATHEDRAL CORPORATION

Deacon Dan Romanello reported that he had talked to Daniel T. McNamara, the Northeast Regional Sales Director of Cathedral Corporation, about hosting luncheon meeting with deaneries (pastors/administrators) to discuss best practices for Parish Stewardship and Increased Offertory Programs.

Action Plan: It was decided that this be postponed until the deaneries have been restructured.

UPDATE: PRIESTS' CONVOCATION 2020

Fr. Savage reminded the committee that the next Priests' Convocation will be held Wednesday, October 21 – Friday, October 23, 2020 at the Westford Regency Inn and Conference Center. Li-Ling Waller is working with Megan D'Antonio, Sales Manager, to prepare the contract agreement to be signed by Bill LaBroad.

UPDATE: CLERGY EDUCATION IN PREPARATION FOR THE BALLOT MEASURE ON PHYSICIAN-ASSISTED SUICIDE IN MASSACHUSETTS

Deacon Don Philip reported that he has been in contact with people in the region and other dioceses in Massachusetts to find out what is being done to educate the clergy and laity on end-of-life issues.

Action Plan: Deacon Philip will contact key people involved in educating clergy and laity on this issue and plan a special education day for clergy and laity in the fall.

NEW BUSINESS

ANNUAL PRIESTS' RETREATS 2020

Fr. Tom Shea recommended Fr. Timothy W. O'Brien, S.J., a graduate of Holy Cross College (2006) and currently assigned at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Washington, D.C. to be a possible retreat director for one of our Annual Priests' Retreats.

OTHER BUSINESS

ANNOUNCEMENT: THE REVEREND HUGH CREAN ANNUAL DISTINGUISHED LECTURE

Fr. Savage reminded the committee that the *Reverend Hugh Crean Annual Distinguished Lecture* will be held on Wednesday, April 24, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. at The Elms College in Veritas Auditorium with a reception to follow. The speaker is Sr. Mary Johnson, SNDcN. The title of her lecture is "*Catholic Women in the United States: Value and Vision.*"

SCHEDULE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the committee will be held on May 21, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. at The Elms College (15 Gaylord Street, Conference Room).

The meeting concluded with a prayer lead by Deacon Don Philip.