



FAITH. HOPE. CLARITY

Diocese of Springfield

Committee for the Continuing Education, Formation and Support of Clergy

www.diospringfieldCEFSC.org

TO: Presbyteral Council and CEFSC Committee

FROM: Fr. Warren J. Savage, Chairperson

DATE: April 26, 2021

RE: Summary Report of the April 20, 2021 Virtual Meeting

The committee met virtually on Tuesday, April 20, 2021. **Members Present:** Fr. Warren Savage, Chairperson, Fr. Michael Lillpopp, Fr. James Nolte, Deacon Paul Briere, Deacon Kevin McCarthy, Deacon Don Phillip, Deacon David Picard, Deacon Daniel Romanello. **Excused Absence:** Fr. Piotr Calik, Vicar General, Fr. Mark Stelzer, Deacon Roger Carrier

OLD BUSINESS

NEW PASTORS ONGOING FORMATION PROGRAM

Fr. Piotr Calik, Vicar General, submitted a report that two programs are scheduled for priests ordained in the last five years recently appointed Pastors and Parish Administrators, and the newly ordained priests.

Priests Ordained in the last Five Years (Recently Appointed Pastors and Parish Administrators)

Monday, May 10, 2021
Bishop Marshall Center
9:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Newly Ordained Priests

Monday, June 7, 2021
Bishop Marshall Center
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

DEACON DIRECTORY UPDATE MINISTRY PROJECT

Deacon Romanello reported that he and Deacon Dave Picard are re-initiating the Deacon Directory Update Project that stalled at the onset of COVID last year. As a starting point, they have begun reaching out again to active and retired deacons in the Berkshire Deanery as a first push in getting the database populated with updated information. A PDF profile document will be emailed to each of the deacons in the deanery to fill out.

DEANERY MEETINGS ON MANDATORY REPORTER POLICY

Fr. Savage reported that he and Jeff Trant, MSW, LCSW, CPRP, Director, Office of Safe Environment and Victim Assistance, have scheduled Deanery Meetings to meet with priests and deacons to present the Mandatory Reporter Policy. The schedule of meetings is listed below.

Monday, April 26 – Holyoke Deanery
Saturday, May 8 – Hampshire Deanery
Tuesday, May 11 – Franklin Deanery
Wednesday, May 12 – Hampden Deanery
Thursday, May 20 – Berkshire Deanery
Tuesday, May 25 – Hampden West Deanery

CLERGY DAY ON PROMOTING VOCATIONS

Fr. Savage reported that he has been working with Fr. Jon Reardon, Director of Vocation Recruiting, to plan the Clergy Day on Promoting Vocations. Fr. Savage will prepare an announcement to send to the priests. The schedule for the day is listed below.

Tuesday, May 18, 2021

St. Michael's Cathedral

Presenter: Fr. Mark Ivany, Director of Priests Vocations, Archdiocese of Washington, D.C.

Schedule:

2:00 p.m. – Eucharistic Holy Hour led by Bishop Byrne. (Daytime Prayer led by Bishop Byrne and Fr. Ivany will preach during this time of prayer.)

3:00 p.m. – Priests will gather in the Bishop Marshall Center

3:10 p.m. – Presentation on Vocations: Best Practices

4:00 p.m. – Q&A Session

4:15 p.m. – Closing Prayer led by Bishop Byrne

ANNUAL DIOCESAN SPRING RETREAT FOR PRIESTS

Fr. Savage reported that an announcement with information regarding the retreat was sent to the active and retired priests. (See attached announcement sent to active and retired priests and Miramar Retreat Center Liability Waiver)

ADMINISTRATION OF THE CEFSC WEBSITE

Fr. Lillpopp reported that Deacon Roger Carrier will give him the password and other credentials. Fr. Lillpopp will assume responsibility for the upkeep and updating of the website for the CEFSC website.

NEW BUSINESS

ANNUAL FALL RETREAT FOR PRIESTS

Fr. Savage will reach to Miramar Retreat Center to reserve dates in September 2021 for the Annual Fall Retreat for Priests.

ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF PRIESTHOOD

The committee recommended that the *Annual Celebration of Priesthood* be planned for October 2021. Fr. Savage will contact Stacy Dibbern to reserve a Tuesday in Bishop Byrne's October schedule and ask her to call the Castle of Knight Meeting and Banquet House regarding the possibility of having dinner to celebrate the anniversaries of our priests (2020 and 2021).

The day begins at St. Michael Cathedral with Mass at 4:00 p.m. with Bishop Byrne and priests followed by cocktails and dinner at 5:30 p.m. at the Castle of Knight Meeting and Banquet House, Chicopee, MA.

YEAR OF THE EUCHARIST 2021-2022

Fr. Savage reported that the Presbyteral Council suggested that a *Year of the Eucharist* be planned and celebrated in the diocese beginning on Sunday, November 21, 2021, The Solemnity of Christ the King, and concluding on September 29, 2022.

Fr. Piotr Calik, Vicar General, submitted a request to the CEFSC committee on behalf of the planning committee that Clergy Days for 2021 – 2022 focus on the *Year of the Eucharist* and resources be prepared for the priests and deacons to use during the Year of the Eucharist.

Pending the approval of Bishop Byrne in collaboration with the Presbyteral Council, the committee recommended that a *Symposium or Study Day of the Theology and Spirituality of the Eucharist* be planned for the priests and deacons.

Members of the committee recommended the following theologians for a *Study Day on the Eucharist*.

Owen F. Cummings is the author of eighteen published works, including EUCHARISTIC DOCTORS: A THEOLOGICAL HISTORY, THINKING GOD, THINKING ABOUT PRAYER, CANTERBURY COUSINS, and JOHN MACQUARRIE: A MASTER OF THEOLOGY. A Catholic theologian and deacon, Cummings is the Regents' Chair of Theology at Mt. Angel Abbey in Mount Angel Seminary in St. Benedict, Oregon. He is a contributor to a number of Catholic periodicals and newspapers and frequently serves as a guest speaker and lecturer across the country.

Fr. Frank J. Matera was for many years the Andrews-Kelly-Ryan Professor of Biblical Studies at the Catholic University of America. A former president of the Catholic Biblical Association of America, he is presently the pastor of St. Mary's Church in Simsbury, Connecticut. He has published commentaries on Romans, Second Corinthians, and Galatians and written books on New Testament theology, New Testament Christology, New Testament ethics, and Pauline theology. Matera's previous works published by Liturgical Press include Galatians in the Sacra Pagina series, Strategies for Preaching Paul, Preaching Romans: Proclaiming God's Saving Grace, and most recently The Sermon on the Mount: The Perfect Measure of the Christian Life.

Committee to Develop Resources for the Year of the Eucharist

Fr. Savage asked Deacons Paul Briere, Kevin McCarthy, Don Phillip, David Picard, and Daniel Romanello to begin to research and compile resources for the *Year of the Eucharist* to be shared with priests and deacons for personal enrichment and adult faith formation in their parish communities.

CLERGY DAY ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY IN MINISTRY

Fr. Shea recommended that a Clergy Day on Information Technology be planned for priests and deacons. He feels that our priests and deacons need guidance, training, support, and best practices in the use of technology (e.g., Flocknote, diocesan emails, etc.). Priests and deacons need help on how to effectively incorporate technology into their ministry.

Fr. Savage will contact Mark Dupont, Office of Communications, to discuss and plan a special clergy day for priests and deacons on information technology with a specific focus on the advantages of Flocknote and diocesan email.

ONGOING FORMATION PROGRAM FOR DEACONS

Deacon McCarthy announced that deacons are encouraged to participate in *Going Forth With Pentecost Joy, Experience the Joy of Pentecost as a Missionary Disciple*. This program is sponsored by the Maryknoll Priests and Brothers. (Please see the attached flyer for additional information).

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at 12:30 p.m. at the Bishop Marshall Center