

402 S. Independence Blvd.
Romeoville, IL 60446

JAVA Meeting Minutes

Date: December 12, 2005

Location: Fiat House

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Present: Marj Westendorf, Carolyn Jost, Kevin O'Donnell, Guy Jelinek, Ron Beaumont, Claire Vandborg, Paul Mach (Guest), John Regan, Barb Kwiatkowski, Nora Labanauskas

I. Prayer: Fr. John Regan

II. Formation: Paul Mach, Associate Director for Youth Ministry & Young Adult Ministries in the Joliet Diocese. Paul began by talking about YLC. Over 800 young adults come to the conference. He thinks that it would be great to have JAVA present at a booth. Their presence would make a difference. Over 200 young adults from our diocese went to Germany along with Bishop Kaffer and several priests from the Joliet Diocese. Their presence there also made a difference. It presented the young people with the opportunity to interact with them and ask questions of the priests. High school retreats also make a big impact on the kids. He wants youth ministers in the parishes to encourage their pastors and priests to interact more with the youth and also wants the kids encouraged to talk with the priests. The Bishops' Conference has in their plan for high schools to devote a section of teaching to vocations. Paul would like the high schools to have a list of resources for vocations e.g. JAVA to come in and speak to youths in the classroom. Family dynamics are different now because of family size. Parents don't encourage religious vocations because of this. They want to see their family carry on. Paul is new to the diocese and is still getting familiar with it. He would like to see parishes become young adult friendly. Sr. Carolyn asked if vocation programs could be advertised through Paul's office. Paul also wants to know if JAVA had speakers available from their group or from their congregations. John said it works better to connect with programs already happening rather than creating a new one. John asked if it was possible to do a joint project with Youth Ministry even if just a meeting. Paul said he would definitely make the connection to get JAVA together with Youth Ministry. Marj also said it is important to have both men and women represented when talking about vocations to the youth. Paul asked that on the JAVA agenda that what we refer to as Youth Groups under Priorities/Projects now be referred to as Youth Ministries.

III. Minutes: Minutes from the November meeting were approved.

IV. Priorities / Projects:

A. Grade Schools – nothing at this time.

B. REO – nothing at this time.

C. Catholic High Schools – JCA Vocation Fair will be held on 2/14/06.

Barb already has 8-9 responses of congregations attending. There will be 90-100 students to a period. There are 7 class periods. 12-14 groups can set up in Alumni Hall. If more congregations come then they will be in the gym. Prizes should all be the same. There should be at least 2 prizes per class. Winners names are pulled from those forms filled out by students. Prizes are donated by JAVA directors. All directors will go to lunch at the same time. The school usually provides the lunch and it is better for the religious to go through the lunch line with the students and interact with them in that manner. Barb will check on lunch at JCA.

Guy is working on the Benet letter that is to go out to Vocation Directors for Benet's Vocation Fair.

D. Youth Groups – nothing at this time.

E. University Campuses – Kevin mentioned that Br. James McDonald took Br. Keane's position. He is meeting with him on Wednesday and wanted to know if he should mention JAVA to him. John said yes. Kevin is putting together the spring booklets for Campus Ministry. Please let him know if you want any programs listed in there. John asked Kevin to add SOML Online to it.

F. Parish Vocation Contacts – nothing at this time.

G. Serra Club of DuPage County – nothing at this time.

H. Bulletin Profiles of those in Formation – Ron and Nora working on those.

I. Poster of Men & Women in Religious Formation – being worked on.

V. National Vocation Awareness Week: John will be emailing information to pastors parish vocation contacts, principals and directors of religious education regarding this. He will also be putting the links for information on his website.

VI. Adjournment – 12:30 p.m. Christmas Luncheon followed.

Next Meeting:

Monday, January 9, 2005

Location: St. Charles Pastoral Center

Chair: Guy Jelinek

Secretary: Nora Labanauskas

Prayer & Formation: Kevin O'Donnell

Topic: Family & Vocation Gathering