

Meeting of the Social Justice/Multicultural Committee
Thursday, November 16, 2006
3 pm Our Lady of Guadalupe

Present: Sister Barbara, Our Lady of Guadalupe Mission, Gretchen Forrester, Holy Cross Parish, Barbara Susan, Holy Cross Parish, Hank and Sarah Rutkowski, St. Edward, Mercedes Fox, Our Lady of Guadalupe Mission

Not Present: Mary Suarez

Handouts:

Agenda for the 11/16/06 meeting
Minutes from the 10/19/06 meeting

I Opening Prayer

Sister Barbara opened the meeting with prayer at 3:19 pm

II Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve minutes by Gretchen; seconded by Sarah. Approved.

III Reports

A. Vicariate Meeting report given by Mercedes

- Meeting broke into smaller groups.
- Filled out a form; plan of action for social justice group. Sister Barbara has a copy of the plan.
- Mercedes gave information on the Alternate Gift giving ideas.
- We are still waiting on feedback from the parishes. The survey was re-distributed in order to facilitate that request.
- Sharon Bender from St. Joseph Parish Port Huron would like to join this committee.

B. Individual reports

1. Contact information for members of this committee distributed
2. Resources and Opportunities page from the website distributed (Barbara added that she will make copies for members of the committee and bring to each meeting.) Send to Sister to take to next Vicariate meeting.

IV. December meeting theme: Alternate Christmas Gifts

- General discussion of alternative gift ideas - put an article in the Sunday bulletin
 - Church World Service:
Discussion of Church World Service for next year.
Sister reviewed all the materials. This would make a good family project.
- Alternative market and items from third world countries
Discussion of ideas for next year.
 - write articles for our bulletins
 - ask for support for market for next year
 - present a plan to the Vicariate in September
 - SJM Committee would provide publicity for bulletins each month

- Resources Page recommendations and review:
 - The Heifer Project
 - America's Second Harvest
 - Catholic Relief Services Catalogue sells things made by people all over the world
 - World Wildlife Fund, www.worldwildlife.org
 - Detroit Relief and Rescue Mission, www.drmm.org

- Discussion

Other areas of the country that need help include: Appalachia area; southwest; Alaska; Upper Michigan. Sister wants to focus on other parts of the world because this country has more options for care for the poor. General discussion about relative and extreme poverty.

- Tasks:
 - Get catalog from Unicef
 - Gretchen will get more Catholic Relief brochures
 - Mercedes will investigate poor in America
 - Barbara will get info from the Heifer project and Episcopal Gifts for Life
 - Sarah will write information for St. Edward church; Barbara will send to Holy Cross/St.Catherine/St.Mark bulletin editor
 - Sister will send information to bulletin editor and social justice parish chairman

Agreed to have the market in September 2007. Barbara expressed concern over having enough time to organize and plan.

V. Issues for the year

A. Questionnaires (survey)

Local issue	Voting
National issue	Immigration
International	Darfur

As set at our first meeting, we will work on three issues, with input from the parishes. We should get information from the Vicariate meeting on January 17 (December meeting was cancelled.).

B. Darfur (waiting for information; probably the international issue)

C. Immigration (waiting for information; probably the national issue)

VI. Adjournment

Next meeting set for January 18, 3 pm (third Thursday of month) 3 pm

Agenda item: Review surveys so we can determine national and international issues to pursue.

Meeting adjourned 4:13 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Susan
Recording Secretary