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Minutes of the 889th Provincial Council Meeting February 26-27, 2019, Hales Corners, WI

PRESENT: Fr. Ed Kilianski, provincial superior; Fr. Quang Nguyen, Fr. Jack Kurps, Fr. Christianus Hendrik (second day only; he was delayed by snow), Fr. Vien Nguyen and Br. Andy Gancarczyk, councilors; Dn. David Nagel, provincial treasurer; Br. Frank Presto, provincial secretary; Mary Gorski, recording secretary.

- I. Extended prayer — Fr. Kilianski, councilors, Dn. Nagel and Br. Presto spent the first morning together in extended prayer and sharing.
- II. Administration
 - A. 888th Provincial Council meeting — The council reviewed a summary of the 888th meeting. This was a conference call regarding various personnel issues.
 - B. Communities
 1. Pinellas Park — Mary Balistreri, province director of healthcare, recently visited with the community. She met individually with each SCJ and as a group. During the group meeting she spoke about the need to update POA forms, wills, medical records and medication lists. She also reminded SCJs to be mindful of limiting their contact with others when they are ill. The community discussed the possibility of having a nurse on-call; the Provincial Council is open to this though clarified that the nurse would work on an as-needed basis, not be on a retainer to the community.

Fr. Kilianski is scheduled to do the visitation of the Sacred Heart Community at Pinellas Park from May 6-10.
 2. St. Joseph's Community (4th floor of SHML) — Consultation for local leadership occurred when Fr. Kilianski did the community's provincial visitation. Fr. Vien Nguyen and Br. Frank Presto were asked to leave the room during the discussion of leadership since they had been proposed as possible local superiors. In keeping with the recent efforts to place younger SCJs in leadership, the council voted to appoint Fr. Vien Nguyen to a three-year term as local superior of the St. Joseph's Community. Br. Ray Kozuch was named first councilor and the entire community will serve as council. Br. Frank Presto was reappointed as community treasurer. All were thanked by Fr. Kilianski for their willingness to serve.
 - C. Membership
 1. Fr. Francois Tsanga — The archdiocese of Galveston-Houston is open to allowing Fr. Tsanga to minister as a diocesan priest ad experimentum for up to three years with the possibility of future incardination. Fr. Jean Marie Signie, provincial superior of Cameroon, has been contacted by the archdiocese regarding this.

Fr. Kilianski will inform Fr. Tsanga that he is being removed from the province medical policy. However, he will be allowed to keep the car that he has from the province. Fr. Francois is to contact Kevin Stanke about transferring the title. Fr. Francois will be responsible for his own car insurance as well as health insurance.
 2. Frater Long Nguyen — Frater L. Nguyen has been involved in ministry at St. Martin of Tours,.

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- D. Province Assembly — Fr. Vien Nguyen updated the council on plans for the June 10-14 assembly; he is chairperson of the organizing committee. Fr. Anthony Gittins, CSSp has been confirmed as a presenter. Author of the book *Living Mission Interculturally*, he will pick up on work begun at the January Provincial Conference in regard to intercultural living and ministry. The North American Migration Committee will facilitate a presentation on migration (the assembly planning committee will have the opportunity to review the presentation prior to the assembly), and a representative from Praesidium will give a workshop regarding safe environments that will count toward required Safe Environment Education hours.

Other items for the schedule: evening entertainment (previous years this has included a jazz band, Comedy Sportz and a magician) as well as a remembrance of the deceased. Regarding evening activities, several SCJs have musical talents; perhaps a few could be encouraged to lead an evening of entertainment.

Concerning prayer and liturgy, the committee is trying to involve as many SCJs as possible. Each Mass will have one person as the main celebrant and a second person as a homilist. The council is open to the option of having a non-ordained SCJ give a reflection in place of a homily.

The assembly begins with the celebration of Province Jubilees on Monday evening. Participants in the reunion of former SCJs and students will be present at the jubilee; they will also be a part of the first session of the assembly on Tuesday morning. An invitation letter to the assembly will be sent by Fr. Ed Kilianski to SCJs in early March; this will go to members of the US Province as well as the Canadian Region.

It was noted that this is an assembly of the US Province; however, members of the Canadian Region are welcome and encouraged to take part.

- E. Accreditation review — Br. Presto updated the council on the Praesidium accreditation process. The accreditation team will be on-site at the Provincialate September 16-17. The site visit will be at St. Joseph's Indian School; this is being arranged with Mike Tyrell. The province is on schedule to fulfill documentation requirements, though there are still a significant number of SCJs who have not submitted their training hours. The workshop at the June assembly will count for four hours.
- F. Formation ratio — There has been no recent action regarding the updating of the formation ratio; Br. Presto will contact the committee chair for more information.
- G. Provincial Conference — The next provincial conference is scheduled for January 7-9, 2020. "Our Future: Together in Community and Ministry, Part III," will focus on ministry: seeking ways to strengthen current ministries while also taking first steps towards creating a new ministry, such as campus ministry.

For several years there has been discussion in the province regarding new ministry, one that would focus on youth and/or young adults. Fr. Q. Nguyen has done initial inquiry about campus ministry. The council would like to pursue this more seriously. Fr. Kilianski will write a letter to the national campus ministry organization to seek information about this: where is there availability for such ministry, what are the requirements, are there training workshops for those preparing for such ministry? Councilors said that the province needs to determine if such a ministry would be a stand-alone effort or if it would be connected to a parish. It is essential that the ministry be based in community; it cannot just be one or two SCJs on their own. Either a community of three or more would need to be established or the ministry would need to be done near an existing community.

Returning to discussion about the conference, councilors emphasized that the conference's focus on ministry does not mean that concern is moving away from community life. Prior conversations regarding community living will serve as a base for SCJs in their discussions on how to approach ministry. A possible theme (tied to the title of the conference, "Our Future...") could be "Letting Go." How does one let go of previous ways of living and serving in order to open oneself to new possibilities for enhanced community life and ministry?

Councilors asked whether most members of the province have a good sense of what is going on in the various ministries. Could there be an engaging information-sharing component that would help SCJs and those in formation better know the province's ministries? One suggestion was to do this in the style of a late-night talk show with a host interviewing representatives from different areas about their ministries. This could include lay people, perhaps by video, to give a wider perspective on Dehonian ministries.

It is important to show how the Dehonian charism is applied and lived in province ministries. For years there has been dis-

cussion about how to make parishes more Dehonian – what does that mean and how can it be done? How can enculturation in community and ministry be Dehonian?

As were the previous two conferences, the 2020 gathering is for members of the province in active ministry as well as students and novices. Sr. Cathy Bertrand, SSND, will once again facilitate the gathering.

- H. Public release of names — As discussed at the January council meeting, many dioceses, and now some religious orders, have made public the names of priests, religious and former members who have had credible allegations of abuse. Councilors reviewed recent documents from the Union of Superiors General, the US Catholic Conference of Bishops and from the archbishop of Chicago. The decision to release names is a difficult one because in some instances the criteria as to who should appear on the list is not easily defined. The Provincial Council will continue to monitor the situation. It was noted that regardless of whether a list is published or not the province will continue to offer open and compassionate methods for people to report alleged abuse. Currently, a hotline is managed by St. Joseph's Indian School; this is available to anyone who seeks to report alleged abuse regardless of where it may have taken place.
- I. Ministry updates
1. Lower Brule — The two Indonesian SCJs who have been made available for ministry in South Dakota are scheduled to visit the US embassy next week in hopes of receiving visas for the United States. It was noted that both will need ESL and American culture studies before being available for assignment. Fr. Hendrik has also been in dialogue with a religious order of sisters in Indonesia (Sisters of Charity) about possible ministry in South Dakota.
 2. Our Lady of Guadalupe — Br. Gancarczyk said that it has been good to have Fr. Duy Nguyen back following his sabbatical; the parish looks forward to Fr. Juan Carlos Castañeda Rojas' return. The parish is seeking a Director of Education; contact was made with a religious community of sisters but the person whom the parish wanted to hire was not available. It was suggested that Br. Gancarczyk take the DRE position and hire a lay person to attend to the business concerns of the parish. Br. Gancarczyk said that he was open to this but noted the expense of another salary. There is also concern about paying for the salaries of three priests at the parish; two would be more reasonable financially though the parish really needs the personnel. Councilors said that they are open to subsidizing salaries to enhance ministry and community life. The council thinks it important to maintain an SCJ presence at OLG.
- J. Mission Education — The Dehonian Associates Committee proposed that the next Mission Education Conference take place at St. Joseph's Indian School October 13-15; this will coincide with Native American Day in South Dakota. The council endorsed the dates and location.
- K. Klingler Award — The Provincial Council voted to endorse the recommendation of the Justice, Peace and Reconciliation Commission to open the nomination process for the Klingler Award to lay people and other religious employed by the US Province and/or Canadian Region, Dehonian Associates and members and staff of SCJ parishes. Non-SCJs are already eligible to receive the award; this change allows them to also make nominations.
- L. Provincial visitations — Several adjustments were made to the provincial visitation calendar; the rest of the visitation schedule is now as follows:
- 1) Sacred Heart Monastery, March 3-8 (Fr. Ed Kilianski)
 - 2) Mississippi, March 14-17 (Fr. Quang Nguyen)
 - 3) Novitiate, March 18-21 (Fr. Ed Kilianski)
 - 4) Texas, April 28 - May 4 (Fr. Christianus Hendrik)
 - 5) Florida, May 6-10 (Fr. Ed Kilianski)
 - 6) South Dakota, May 26-28 (Fr. Jack Kurps)
- M. North American Migration Committee — Fr. V. Nguyen shared communication from the NORAM Migration Committee. He said that after a recent presentation hosted by the committee, he approached Mark Peters and Fr. Tony Russo about seeking ways in which SCJs could support the plight of migrants. One suggestion from the committee is to fund an attorney to work with migrants through an organization such as Catholic Charities. Barbara Graham, who has spoken to SCJs about migration, does this work; more attorneys are needed. Councilors agreed on the need but noted the significant expense. Perhaps this is something that could be done through a group effort with several organizations.
- Fr. V. Nguyen noted that Ms. Graham gave a talk to SCJs and members of the SHSST community in regard to the needs of migrants in the Milwaukee area. As a result of that, several seminarians are now volunteering in support of migrant concerns.

Councilors thanked the committee for its input; migration concerns will continue to be a topic of discussion.

It was noted that the committee is in the process of assessing its mission and next steps. Should its emphasis be on the education of SCJs on migration issues (the original purpose of the committee) or on advocacy? This will be a topic of discussion at the committee's next meeting.

III. Finance

- A. Province Development Office — Although traditional mailings performed adequately, acquisition mailings had lower returns than anticipated. This was a national phenomenon that many other non-profit mailers also experienced during the last quarter. The St. Joseph's team was on-site February 19-20. Transition to the new Studio Enterprise software is just about complete; the full transition will be done by July 1. Overall, fundraising is on track to meet projected levels.
- B. Budgets — The deadline for informing the Provincial Council of capital projects for the next budget year was February 4. The most significant project submitted is for the Sacred Heart Center in Eagle Butte, SD. The center proposes building a family violence center for \$2.75 million.
- C. Sacred Heart Monastery/Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology Major Maintenance — Approximately \$250,000 of maintenance is proposed for SHM/SHSST, most of which will be done during the summer.
- D. SHM remodeling — The final pay application is in process for the SHM remodeling project. The cost estimate of the next phase — tentatively scheduled for 2020 — has been lowered from \$5 million to \$4.9 million. The reduced price takes into account work that was done during the recently competed phase.
- E. Blue Book — The annual "Blue Book," which includes all of the audit reports of the province, was presented to the council for review.
- F. General Finance Commission — The next General Finance Commission meeting will be May 18-22 in Rome; Dn. David Nagel continues to serve on the commission and will be present at the meeting.
- G. South Dakota legislation — Dn. Nagel informed the council that a recent effort to revise South Dakota's statute of limitations did not succeed. It was noted that St. Joseph's Indian School has been and continues to be responsive to all allegations of inappropriate behavior. A hotline has been in place for many years for people to report concerns.

IV. Conference call — The council will next meet by conference call on March 11 at 10:30 a.m.

CALENDAR

April 2-3, 2019:	Provincial Council Meeting
April 24, 2019:	Senior Life Commission Meeting
May 14-15, 2019:	Provincial Council Meeting
June 9-10, 2019:	Dehonian Esprit de Coeurs reunion (former SCJs and SCJ seminarians)
June 10, 2019:	Province Jubilee Celebration (vows)
June 11-14, 2019:	Provincial Assembly
July 9-10, 2019:	Provincial Council Meeting
October 13-15:	Mission Education (South Dakota)
January 7-9, 2020	Provincial Assembly, "Our Future Together in Community and Ministry, Part III"

UPDATES

Fr. Bryan Benoit

New email address: bryanbscj1@gmail.com

Fr. Joseph Mukuna

Corrected phone: 414-828-1517

Also, please note that **Fr. Gustave Lulendo N'dotony** is now regional superior of the Canadian Region so the regional administration is now in Montréal. Fr. Gustave's cell phone number is 438-920-8972 and his email address is: glulendo@yahoo.fr

NECROLOGY

+**Fr. José João Hellmann**, a member of the South Brazilian Province, died February 26. He was born in 1949, made his first profession in 1971 and was ordained in 1976.

+**Fr. Carlo Ceccato**, a member of the North Italian Province, died February 13. He was born in 1928, professed in 1948 and ordained in 1956.

+**Fr. João Maurício de Santana**, from the Brazil Recife Province (BRE), died February 3. He was born in 1939, professed in 1978 and ordained in 1979.