

This issue

Minutes of the
May 10-11, 2022,
US Provincial Council
meeting, p. 1

Calendar, p. 10

Updates, p. 10

Necrology, p. 10

U.S. Province Priests of the Sacred Heart

P.O. Box 289
Hales Corners, WI
53130-0289
www.dehoniansusa.org
414-425-6910

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Minutes of the 917th US Provincial Council Meeting May 10-11, 2022, Hales Corners, WI

PRESENT: Fr. Vien Nguyen, Provincial Superior, Fr. Jack Kurps, Fr. Rafael Querobin, Fr. Greg Schill, Br. Duane Lemke and Dn. David Nagel, Councilors; Br. Frank Presto, Provincial Secretary; Mary Gorski, recording secretary. Fr. Carlos Luis Suárez Codorníu, Superior General, and Fr. Stephen Huffstetter, Vicar General, joined the meeting for discussion of the General Visitation; and Fr. David Szatkowski (teleconference), Fr. Yvon Sheehy, Fr. Christianus Hendrik (teleconference), Frater Paul Phong Hoang (teleconference), and Fr. Edward Zemlik, members of the Centennial Planning Committee, met with the council to discuss their work.

- I. Check-in — Councilors updated each other on themselves, their ministries, and communities. Items of note:
 - A. Frater Paul Phong Hoang has been well appreciated in Lower Brule both in ministry and in the community. Frater Long Nguyen will soon be leaving the community for his assignment in Hales Corners.
 - B. Fr. Quang Nguyen will go on a jubilee trip that had been delayed due to the pandemic.
 - C. Fr. Fabio dos Santos now has faculties in Galveston-Houston. He has been assigned to Our Lady of Guadalupe as an associate pastor. Other news regarding OLG: the air conditioning has been problematic, but the parish has the funds to have it fixed; also, the archdiocese is investigating the possibility of a new building for the OLG school.
 - D. Fr. Richard MacDonald has been assisting the pastoral team in Mississippi; Fr. Tim Gray will help the team June 1 – July 4, Fr. Greg Schill in late July – early August. Fr. Louis Mariano Fernandes will be in India visiting family and updating immigration paperwork. Fr. Hendrik Ardianto, in collaboration with the pastoral ministry team, organized a youth gathering in northern Mississippi. Approximately 400 youth and adults took part, representing SCJ parishes, as well as Sacred Heart School in Southaven and Holy Family School in Holly Springs. Participants included Catholics and non-Catholics. The day-long event was filled with games, music, and other youth activities. The pastoral team plans to organize similar gatherings in the future.
 - E. There continue to be significant challenges in getting visas for international students coming to study at SHSST. Other academic institutions are having similar problems. Students often must apply several times before a visa is granted.
- II. General Visitation — Fr. Carlos Luis Suárez Codorníu, Superior General, and Fr. Stephen Huffstetter, Vicar General, joined the council as a part of their General Visitation of the US Province.
 - A. Doing more with less — Fr. V. Nguyen shared a brief overview of the province, noting that the number of SCJs in the United States is quite a bit less than 30 years ago (a little over 70 SCJs, with approximately half in retirement). However, with the assistance of 500+ collaborators (employees and volunteers) the province continues to maintain a wide variety of ministries. A priority for the current provincial administration is enhancing knowledge of the Dehonian charism in lay leadership so that Dehonian spirituality continues in province ministries regardless if an SCJ is present.

- B. Province history — Before the meeting, Frs. Suárez and Huffstetter spent time in Pinellas Park, FL, and Milwaukee. In both areas, they met with senior SCJs who have given them an historical sense of the province. Challenges are acknowledged but there is also much hope for the future, and much enthusiasm for the new administration.

Fr. Suárez noted the province’s historical commitment to be in some of poorest counties in the country and the many social works in which the province is involved.

- C. Interculturality — Fr. Suárez spoke of the interculturality of the US Province. It is a blessing but also a challenge to find ways to better prepare international SCJs for community and ministry in the United States, as well as help local communities welcome their international confreres.
- D. Academics and Dehonian spirituality — Fr. Suárez emphasized the need to reignite the Dehon Study Center; it is important to enhance knowledge of the founder among SCJs and the laity. Also, English translations of Fr. Dehon’s work and related texts are vital for the worldwide congregation. It was noted that English is the common language of the SCJs. Reflecting on Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology, Fr. Suárez called it “one of the treasures of the congregation.” SHSST and Taubaté are the only theological centers of the congregation. Such institutions are vital in promoting Dehonian spirituality, and simply the Dehonian way of approaching issues. “It is important not to just act, not to just do; we must be creative and think before acting,” said Fr. Suárez. This way of serving can be a gift to the Church shared through the Dehonian institutions. Fr. V. Nguyen emphasized that Dehonian scholars and collaborators are always welcome at SHSST.

Fr. Suárez encouraged the US Province to send an SCJ to Rome to take part in the two-year program at the Centro Studi Dehoniani.

- E. Vocations — Vocations must remain a priority but can’t be the responsibility of just one person or office. “What is each community doing to promote vocations?” he said.
- F. Missionary spirit — Fr. Suárez spoke of the importance of having a missionary spirit. Although it is a challenging proposition, he would like to see each entity commit 25% of its personnel to missionary activities. It was noted that the US Province regularly sends SCJs to the missions for short-term assignments, such as Fr. Charles Brown in South Africa and Fr. Tom Cassidy in India. The province is also present in many home missions.

When sending and receiving SCJs between entities, there must be clear expectations. Although there are benefits to international experiences at any age, the General Administration has decided — in fidelity to the Formation Ratio — that initial formation should be done either in the entity or the general geographic area of the student. It is important that a religious have a good identity as an SCJ and emotional maturity before going to another entity.

- G. Availability — Fr. Suárez spoke of the call to “availability,” but added that it can be a hard call to live. Many people embrace the concept of availability, but often with qualifications. Yet it is an important aspect of being an SCJ, as is the need to live in a spirit of gratitude. “Availability is in the DNA of what it is to be an SCJ,” he said.
- H. New ventures — Fr. Suárez spoke about some of the new international communities in the congregation, including Colombia and the Netherlands. In the future, the General Administration hopes to establish a Dehonian presence in Norway (the SCJs were originally there from 1923-1939). The entities of Africa have been asked to open a small, international presence in a country that borders one in which the SCJs are already present. Tanzania has been suggested since it borders Mozambique and DR Congo.
- I. Centennials — Fr. Suárez noted several centennials coming up in the congregation, including the 100th anniversary of the SCJ presence in the United States and in South Africa in 2023, as well as the 100th anniversary of the death of Fr. Dehon in 2025. Fr. Suárez and Fr. Huffstetter spoke of commemorating such moments not only with souvenirs but perhaps with a gift of service. For example, in commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the SCJ presence in India, the district decided to establish a community in one of the poorer areas of the country. Should there be a penitential element to the commemorations that allow the congregation to reflect on moments in its past where reconciliation may be needed?

Fr. Suárez ended his visit with the council by emphasizing that the General Administration is at service to the entities of the congregation. “How can we better serve you?” he said.

- J. Formation — Fr. Suárez said that it was a joy to spend time with the formation community and that he found much life in it.
- K. 2024 General Chapter — The General Administration will soon begin planning for the 2024 General Chapter. Fr. Huffstetter encouraged the council to suggest topics that need to be addressed at the chapter. Also, the General Council welcomes suggestions for SCJs to serve on the planning committee.
- III. Visioning — In early April, the council took part in a planning retreat that addressed the three pillars of focus chosen by the current administration: Spirituality, Community, and Mission and Ministry. Before continuing their discussions on the three pillars, councilors reviewed the minutes of the Planning Retreat and of the 2022 Province Election Assembly. Reflecting on both, they moved their discussions from generalities to specifics.

- A. Additional topics — After reviewing the two sets of minutes, councilors were invited to note topics of significance that might not have been explicitly identified in either set of minutes. Among the items noted was the decreasing number of SCJs in the US Province. Instead of simply looking at the number and seeing diminishment, it is important to recognize that the province had the same number of members at another time in its history, yet there was a sense of optimism and growth. How do SCJs in the US recapture that optimism, celebrating the many ministries for which the province is currently responsible and creatively embrace possibilities for new efforts? The SCJs can be a witness of collaboration in the Church.

“Enculturation” and “Interculturality” were also topics raised at the Election Assembly, but not specifically at the Planning Retreat.

B. The three pillars

1. Spirituality — The council identified three areas of focus under Spirituality:
- a. Centenary — The Centenary of the SCJ presence in the United States is a moment in which awareness of SCJ spirituality can be enhanced with the wider public.

More discussion of the centennial will take place with the Centennial Planning Committee later in the meeting, but councilors emphasized that the Centennial will be celebrated in a variety of ways in several locations throughout the Centennial Year. A history of the province should be published; it was suggested that Mary Gorski assist with this, though others may be interested in contributing to a history. It is important not to duplicate efforts. Regarding Mission Ed in 2023, it is tentatively scheduled for the second week of October, 2023. Fr. Kurps will talk to Mike Tyrell to see if the conference could start on Monday or Tuesday, not Sunday as outlined. People in parish ministry would not be able to attend if Mission Ed began on Sunday.

- b. Dehonian Associates — Expand the Dehonian Associates program beyond Mississippi. There is a 10-lesson “Spiritual Path” available under the “Dehonian Spirituality” section of the US Province website. This was adapted from a four-year plan for the Lay Dehonian program developed at the general level. It was suggested that videos be used to more easily share the content of the Spiritual Path with people new to the program. Webinars could also be used for presentations on Dehonian Spirituality. A day of recollection for employees was suggested.

Sr. Cathy Bertrand is slated to become the director of Dehonian Associates for the US Province. She has been delayed in assuming the position full time due to prior commitments that were postponed by the pandemic. Once she is in place there can be more focused dialogue on what the program can look like in the future. There needs to be outreach beyond the formal Dehonian Associates program, such as bulletin inserts and social media content. It would be good if the North American Theological Commission could assist, perhaps identifying five core Dehonian values accompanied by complementary readings from scripture and the founder for each value.

A reinvigorated Dehon Study Center would also be helpful in creating materials for sharing Dehonian spirituality.

- c. SCJs — The council would like to offer retreats and/or a renewal program for the SCJs. The North American Theological Commission could be a resource; the commission wouldn’t be expected to have responsibility for the retreats but assistance. Because of events tied to the Centennial and the Province Chapter, it was suggested that the retreat(s) not be scheduled until 2024. The council’s preference is to offer several retreats so that they can be done in smaller groups.

As was already noted previously in the meeting, there is a desire to reestablish the Dehon Study Center. Could the North American Theological Commission take a stronger role in moving this forward? Someone needs to be pre-

pared to take over the center, but in the meantime, how can its work continue? Perhaps several Dehonian scholars could take turns publishing articles on Dehonian themes? These could be shared in several formats.

2. Community life — Each community in the province is unique. There are some core skills — such as enhanced communication — that can benefit any community, but there are also concerns that are unique to each. For example, community life in a large community such as Sacred Heart at SHML is much different than a small community, such as the Texas community at OLG, Houston. In South Dakota there is one community, but two houses. There are significant health concerns that affect community life at Sacred Heart at SHML, and there are significant cultural differences in several of the smaller communities with international members.

Communication is key to healthy community living, but it is a skill that needs to be nurtured. The facilitator at the province gatherings in Belleview, IL, often gave a quick refresher on the basics of good communication. Would doing something like this in community be helpful to enhance discussion?

Local leadership is also an important component of good community living. The council plans to offer more significant support to local leadership. This could take the form of periodic Zoom meetings and webinars.

Councilors noted that while division in community can be frustrating, it is important that it not consume a community.

3. Mission and Ministry — The council will address this pillar at its next meeting.

IV. Finance

A. Updates

1. Province Finance Commission — The council voted to appoint Fr. Duy Nguyen to a three-year term to the Province Finance Commission.
2. Blue Book — The “Blue Book,” which is a compilation of the audits and financial statements of the of province entities is now complete and available for review by members of the Provincial Council. Kevin Stanke assembles the book each year.
3. Investment meeting — The next investment meeting will be May 16. The return rate for 2021 was 15.26% but the first quarter of 2022 is showing a rate of -7.7%.
4. COVID — The Employee Medical Plan paid out \$537,648 for COVID-related vaccinations, tests and treatments.
5. Chris Lambert — Mr. Lambert will begin transitioning to the Province Treasurer’s Office on July 1, initially doing work for both SHSST and the province. He will have an office in the vocation wing for now.

B. Budgets — The following budgets were reviewed and recommended for approval by Province Finance Commission. No concerns were noted.

1. Province Development Office — The office is expected to meet its FY22 budget of \$6.5 million to the Province. With investment income, the FY23 budget anticipates a surplus of \$897,000. The council voted to approve the Province Development Office budget for a total of \$18,468,432 (this includes the \$6.5 million transferred to the province and the \$897,000 excess). The council also voted to approve capital expenditures of \$57,000 for Information Technology and \$140,000 for Building and Grounds.
2. Sacred Heart Southern Missions — SHSM is budgeting a \$2,483,000 surplus for FY23. The province grant remains at \$800,000, which it has been at for several years. Dn. Nagel will suggest that SHSM consider increasing it to \$1 million. The council voted to approve the SHSM budget for a total of \$35,790,855, which includes the surplus. The council also voted to approve capital expenditures for a total of \$965,000, which include updates to both schools, the social service programs (remodeling of the Flanagan Center and two vans), and IT updates at the office in Walls.
3. Sacred Heart Southern Missions Housing Corporation — The budget is similar to last year; revenue comes from SHSM and rent from Dehon Village. The council voted to approve the SHSM-HC budget for a total of \$452,170

4. Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology — There has been an average of 21 new seminarians in recent years; 20 seminarians are expected to live on campus next semester. St. Francis Seminary anticipates approximately 50 seminarians next year. The province grant will continue to be \$2,779,900. Last year SHSST received \$709,625 in Cares Act money, and a grant from the Lilly Endowment for \$1 million to be used over the next four years. The council voted to approve the SHSST budget for a total of \$7,342,334.
5. St. Joseph's Indian School — St. Joseph's anticipates a surplus of \$4,962,000 for the next year. There are tentative plans to do an \$8 million expansion of the recreation center; money is budgeted for initial exploratory expenses in FY23. Fr. V. Nguyen suggested that there be an effort to add women to the Board of Directors; there had been female board members in the past. The council voted to approve the budget for St. Joseph's Indian School for a total of \$115,525,805, which includes a grant to the province of \$5.158 million, and a surplus of \$4,962,000. The council also voted to approve capital expenses of \$6,788,513 which includes \$1,880,605 for the equine therapy program.
6. Sacred Heart Center, Eagle Butte — There are 29 employees at the center; a new director is being sought. Income is from state grants of \$916,750 and St. Joseph's Indian School for \$2,038,668. The council voted to approve the SHC budget for a total of \$2,576,567. The council also voted to approve capital expenditures of \$378,850 for computers, parking lot maintenance, HVAC, an emergency generator, and garage maintenance.
7. Lower Brule Ministries — The Lower Brule Pastoral Team serves six parishes on the east and west side of the Missouri River. The council voted to approve the budget for a total of \$412,412.
8. Native Hope — The program is focused on community outreach. St. Joseph's Indian School is the primary revenue source, though there are also donations. Native Hope has committed to funding the missing indigenous person specialist position created in the South Dakota State Attorney General's Office. The council voted to approve the Native Hope budget for a total of \$1,480,198. The council also voted to approve capital expenditures of \$65,000 for possible replacement of the center's two trailers (both are from the 1990s), as well as expanded office needs.
9. Houston community — The council voted to approve the community budget for a total of \$299,294, which includes a subsidy from the province of \$128,100. The council also approved capital expenses of \$50,500 for two cars. However, only one car is needed at this time.
10. Our Lady of Guadalupe School — This continues a yearly grant from the province to the school, which used to fall under the JPR budget. Dn. Nagel asked the school to reduce its grant request to \$45,000; he has not yet heard back from the principal. The council voted to approve a grant for \$55,000 with the understanding that the grant will be better clarified in the next fiscal year.
11. Sacred Heart Monastery — The budget is up \$192,200 from last year (the budget fluctuates depending on how many people are in the community). The community is seeking a food service option other than Sodexo (used by SHSST). The council voted to approve the SHM budget for a total of \$1,187,100. The council also voted to approve capital expenses of \$56,000 for two vehicles.
12. St. Francis Residence — This is a budget for four people. There is one part-time maintenance person. The council voted to approve the budget for \$119,620.
13. St. Joseph's Community at SHML — There will be a larger community than the previous fiscal year, but fewer salaries so the province grant will increase to \$307,261. There is one employee (cook/housekeeper). The council voted to approve the St. Joseph's budget for a total of \$497,880.
14. Dehon House — There is currently no one living in the house; the budget is for maintenance and utilities. The council voted to approve the budget for \$36,650.
15. South Dakota Community — Vehicles for ministry are provided by St. Joseph's Indian School. Money has been budgeted for a cook for the Lower Brule residence; one has not yet been found. The council voted to approve the budget for a total of \$296,620 which includes a surplus of \$4,419.
16. St. Michael Community, Nesbit — There is one full-time cook/housekeeper and five members of the community. The council voted to approve the budget for a total of \$442,250 which includes the replacement of one car, furniture replacement and general repairs.

17. Sacred Heart at SHML — The budget is for 27 members, including two at St. Camillus. The province grant is \$911,890. The council voted to approve the budget for a total of \$1,733,490.
18. Sacred Heart Community, Pinellas Park — There is one full-time and one part-time employee; food service is handled by Sodexo. It was noted that Br. Frank Snider will be joining the community. The council voted to approve the budget for a total of \$474,495.
19. Sacred Heart Novitiate — There are no novices for FY23; the budget is down \$94,746. There is a part-time cook and a lawn care service. The council voted to approve the budget for a total of \$194,595.
20. Senior Life Commission — The council voted to approve the budget for a total of \$2,200.
21. Province Archives — The council voted to approve the budget for a total of \$16,300.
22. Province Communications — The council voted to approve the budget for a total of \$170,758.
23. Dehonian Affiliates — No on-site activities are planned for Schools in Collaboration this summer; however, a gathering is planned for next summer. Sr. Cathy Bertrand is slated to take on the director's role once her facilitation schedule clears. The Dehonian Affiliates Committee continues to maintain several activities, such as seasonal mailings. The council voted to approve the budget for a total of \$45,500.
24. Dehon Study Center — The budget remains the same as last year. The council voted to approve the center's budget for a total of \$3,500.
25. English and Cultural Studies — Due to housing limitations following the remodeling, the program has a limit of 35 students (there had been up to 50 during some summer sessions). Approximately half of the students during the school year are SCJs; the summer program is about 30% SCJ. Visas continue to be challenging for international students. It is anticipated that there will be 20 students in the upcoming summer program. The council voted to approve the ECS budget for a total of \$568,250.
26. Foreign Missions — The province will not be supporting any international SCJ students during FY23. The province gives grants to South Africa, DR Congo, India, the Philippines, Vietnam and the General Aid Fund. Fr. V. Nguyen proposed that the entity grants be reduced by 5% annually; this money will instead go to the General Aid Fund (on top of what is already budgeted for the fund). The hope is that the entities that receive grants can focus on greater financial independence. The council voted to approve the Foreign Missions budget for a total of \$2,319,759, which includes the ECS budget.
27. Justice, Peace and Reconciliation — This includes the \$55,000 grant to Our Lady of Guadalupe, which was already approved by the council separately. The council voted to approve the JPR budget for a total of \$73,850.
28. Vocation Department — Due to the significance of vocation recruitment, councilors suggest that more be budgeted for this department in the future. In the next fiscal year the department will renew its dues and memberships in the NRVC to allow future staff to connect with others in vocations, and to take workshops at discounted prices. The council voted to approve the vocation budget for a total of \$214,244.
29. North American Migration Committee — The budget for the committee is split evenly between the US Province and the Canadian Region. The council voted to approve the US portion of the budget for \$30,000.
30. SHSST/SHM Major Maintenance — The largest items for the FY23 budget include \$200,000 to replace the generator and \$125,000 to remodel guest rooms 202 and 204. The council voted to approve the budget for a total of \$468,500.
31. Fr. Guy Blair — Rent has increased, otherwise the budget is similar to the previous year. The council approved it for a total of \$58,475.
32. Br. Andy Gancarczyk — Br. Andy remains on sabbatical until December. The council voted to approve his budget for a total of \$14,800.

33. Fr. Bob Bossie — The Chicago budget only includes Fr. Bossie at this time. The council voted to approve it for a total of \$73,937.
34. US Province budget — This budget includes budgets already reviewed. It forecasts a surplus of \$2,243,197; Dn. Nagel is going to ask SHSM to increase its grant to \$1 million. The increase will be reflected in the surplus. The surplus can be used to add money to the medical fund and the Support and Maintenance Fund. The council voted to approve the budget for a total of \$13,896,625, which includes the anticipated surplus.

V. Administration

A. Provincial Visitations and community updates

1. Sacred Heart at SHML — Fr. V. Nguyen met with just about every member of the community and did a consultation for new leadership; Fr. Quang Nguyen will soon complete his term as local superior. This is the largest community in the province with a variety of challenges, including an increasing number of health concerns among the aging membership. There is significant tension in the community, and challenges that are difficult to address. Perhaps allowing for sub-groups in the community would be a way for members to feel a better sense of support. Some religious communities have created “clusters” in their larger houses to help facilitate better relationships among smaller groups.

Councilors suggested reinstating the pre-retirement workshops to help SCJs prepare for their senior years. Some of the challenges in the community stem from the difficulty some people have in making the abrupt transition from a busy full-time ministry to retirement. Many senior living communities offer activities for their residents; the lay side of SHML offers many options. Could SCJs plug into these options, or perhaps have separate activities designed for them?

The council voted to present Br. Duane Lemke to the Holy See to serve as local superior of the Sacred Heart Community at SHML. His proposed start date is June 16, 2022. If approval from the Holy See is not received at that time, he will serve as administrator of the community until approval is finalized. The house council will be determined at a later date.

2. Sacred Heart Monastery — Fr. V. Nguyen spoke about his visitation of Sacred Heart Monastery. It includes the formation program, retired and active SCJs, and welcomes students from the ECS program. It also functions within the same building as Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology. This mix brings with it the challenge of balancing the needs and concerns of several groups. Good communication is essential. The SHM community has several components, but the council would like the formation program to be the key element of the community. All aspects of the community are important, but the formation program and its needs must take precedence.

The ECS students who are SCJs should be a part of the monastery community, but others should be a part of the wider seminary community. It would be helpful to have a discussion with Kelly Kornacki, director of the academic portion of ECS, and Fr. Yvon Sheehy, residential director, to clarify the needs and expectations of SHSST, ECS, and SHM.

The council voted to appoint Fr. Duy Nguyen as local superior of the Sacred Heart Monastery Community, effective immediately.

Fr. V. Nguyen will appoint Fr. Joseph Dinh as lead of the formation team.

3. St. Joseph’s Community — The council voted to appoint Br. Frank Presto as administrator of the community.
4. South Dakota — The council voted to appoint Fr. Jean Claude Mbassi as treasurer of the South Dakota Community.

- B. Centennial of SCJ presence in the United States — Members of the Planning Committee for the centennial of the SCJ presence in the United States joined the council to talk about their initial plans. The centennial will be commemorated in a variety of ways and locations, including a Centennial Mass in Lower Brule (tentatively planned for July 16, 2023), special local celebrations in conjunction with feast of the Sacred Heart, a province celebration tied to the 2023 Provincial Chapter (scheduled for the week of July 24, 2023), and commemoration of the centennial at the October 2023 Mission Education Conference in South Dakota. Several materials are envisioned under the theme of “100 Years: Building the Reign of the Sacred Heart in Souls and Society,” including a logo (being designed by Frater Paul Phong Hoang) that will be used throughout the year as well as an original piece of art (designed by Br. Duane Lemke). For the logo, it was suggested that the four colors associated with Lakota culture be incorporated (red, black, white and yellow). Another suggestion was the creation of a monstrance that would be specially designed to commemorate the anniversary, or a centennial edition of the

monstrance done for the 75th anniversary.

Included in the province commemoration will be a memorial to deceased SCJs of the province. The South Dakota bishops are to be invited to the Lower Brule celebration, and the superiors of entities which have partnered with the US Province will be invited to both the Lower Brule and province events. The bishops from the dioceses in which the SCJs have ministered will also be invited. It was suggested that Lakota tribal leadership be a part of the commemoration, and that SCJ alumni be invited to the province celebration in Hales Corners.

The Dehon Lecture in fall, 2023, should have a theme that ties in with the centennial.

A variety of materials and resources are to be developed for use throughout the year, including lighter activities such as SCJ trivia to be used in parishes and other province ministries. As noted earlier, it was suggested that a history of the province be published. Videos should be a part of the celebration, perhaps they could include a variety of people who have worked with the SCJs, as well as SCJs themselves. Give-aways, such as tee shirts, or a specially designed prayer book were suggested. Also, the book produced by the Dehon Study Center regarding Fr. Dehon's visit to the United States could be updated and republished.

Members of the Planning Committee: Fr. David Szatkowski (chair), Fr. Yvon Sheehy, Fr. Christianus Hendrik, Frater Paul Phong Hoang, and Fr. Edward Zemlik.

- C. 2022 Province Assembly — The JPR Commission is organizing the August 16-18 Province Assembly. Br. Duane Lemke, JPR director, shared initial plans. Held in an environment of prayer, the assembly will offer a variety of activities to help members learn and talk about justice, peace and reconciliation based on the premise that much is being done in the province regarding JPR. Panel discussions will be used to hear and learn from various groups such as elders, students and younger SCJs, SCJs in a variety of ministries, and collaborators in ministry.

Invitations to the assembly will soon be sent; participants will be asked to make their own travel and lodging arrangements as soon as possible. They should plan to be present for the full days of August 16-18; members of the Canadian Region are being invited. Optional social outings are planned. The North American Migration Committee will also have time for input at the assembly.

D. Membership

1. Fr. Joseph Mukuna — Fr. Mukuna will move to the St. Joseph's community this summer where he will work on completing his doctoral work. There are tentative plans for him to teach a course at SHSST as an adjunct in fall. Br. Presto will begin the paperwork for him to get his R-1 visa.
 2. Fr. Juan Carlos Castañeda Rojas — Fr. Castañeda enjoys his ministry in Ecuador but his desire is to return to the United States if it is possible. Several avenues continue to be explored in allowing this to happen.
 3. Fr. Michel Temgo — Fr. Temgo is a Cameroonian SCJ serving in Dublin. Fr. V. Nguyen said that he was an excellent facilitator at the General Conference; Fr. V. Nguyen asked if he might be interested in teaching at SHSST, in particular, the social teachings of the Church, introduction to theology, and spirituality. Fr. V. Nguyen has spoken to the SHSST rector and academic dean about this. If he does come, he would begin as an adjunct professor.
- E. Religious sisters from the Philippines — Fr. V. Nguyen has been in dialogue with the archbishop of Cagayan de Oro about a group of religious sisters who are based in his archdiocese. The sisters have worked with SCJs in the Philippines and were recommended by the Philippine district superior. Fr. V. Nguyen would like to invite them to serve in South Dakota. The sisters' community is open to sending two sisters to start. Councilors are open to the idea but agree with the archbishop's suggestion that Fr. V. Nguyen go to the Philippines to visit with the community before moving any further in discussions. If they do come to the United States, it was suggested that they take part in the Native American spirituality program offered in Rapid City. One of their primary ministries in South Dakota would be home visits.
- F. Cardinal Peter Turkson — The cardinal gave a presentation at the General Conference that focused on social justice. Fr. V. Nguyen suggested that he would be an excellent speaker for the Dehon Lecture, or to have a session for SCJs with him in person or via Zoom.
- G. Higher Learning Commission — SHSST is exploring options regarding the HLC; some institutions have chosen to no longer seek accreditation with HLC. SHSST is looking at whether this would be a prudent option for the seminary.

- H. PPF — The sixth edition of the Program for Priestly Formation has been approved. Fr. V. Nguyen will chair a committee to determine how the revised PPF will affect the formation program; Fr. V. Nguyen had begun to explore such issues when he was at SHSST. He was to name people to the committee following the council meeting.
 - I. C-POSH Board of Directors — The council approved the appointment of Larry Jandreau to the C-POSH (Chamberlain – Priests of the Sacred Heart) Board of Directors, and the appointment of Fr. Greg Schill, Audrey Taversie and Cora Mae Haskell as members of the Board of Directors of the Sacred Heart Center in Eagle Butte.
- VI. Next meeting — The council will next meet by teleconference on Tuesday, May 17 at 10:00 a.m. (central).

CALENDAR

June 24:	Feast of the Sacred Heart
June 28-29:	Provincial Council meeting, Hales Corners, WI
August 10:	Provincial Council teleconference TBA
August 16-18:	Province Assembly
September 27-28:	Provincial Council meeting, Hales Corners, WI
November 9-10:	Provincial Council meeting, Hales Corners, WI
December 20-21:	Provincial Council meeting, Hales Corners, WI

UPDATES

Welcome to Fr. Son Nguyen of the Vietnamese District; he is now a member of the St. Joseph's Community. He contact and personnel information:

7330 S. Lovers Lane Rd.
Franklin, WI 53132
Phone (CELL):414-458-3599
Email: nguyensonscj@gmail.com
Birthday: 04/27/84, Profession: 05/13/15, Ordination: 12/30/20

Dn. Henry Nguyen is now a member of the St. Joseph's Community; he will be in unit 406.

Frater Long Nguyen is now a member of the Sacred Heart Monastery Community

NECROLOGY

+Fr. Léon Robert, a member of the Franco-European Province, died on April 5. He was born in 1932, professed in 1953 and ordained in 1963.