



NAFSCC
North American
Forum For
SMALL
CHRISTIAN
COMMUNITIES

FNPCC
Foro Norteamericano
Para
LAS PEQUEÑAS
COMUNIDADES
CRISTIANAS

FNAPCF
Le Forum nord-américain
pour
LES PETITES
COMMUNAUTÉS
DE FOI

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E-Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 1
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The NAFSCC E-Newsletters sent bi-monthly to members

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News and Ideas

Chairperson's Report
Presented at the NAFSCC Business Meeting
July 16, 2006



NAFSCC members at NAICE Convention: L-R: Sr. Marci Blum, Br. Bob Moriarty, Fr. Pierre Goudreault, Sr. Pat Froning, Fr. Alejandro López-Cardinale Sr. Donna Cianglio, Carlette Chordas, Diane Kledzik with Archbishop Daniel Pilarczyk from Cincinnati.

This report was presented by Donna L. Cianglio, OP at the North American Institute for Catholic Evangelization held at Xavier University in Cincinnati and updated for inclusion in the E-Newsletter

It is great to see everyone here, get reacquainted and have the opportunity to share about our ministry with small communities. I would like to catch you up on the activities of the NAFSCC Board over the last year.

First of all, let me say that we are dealing with a declining number of diocesan directors of SCCs. Due to financial constraints and the sex abuse scandal, some SCC offices were closed all together and most others were combined with offices such as evangelization, religious education, and adult formation. This past year we had 57 member dioceses as opposed to nearly 80 a few years ago.

Besides financial concerns, other reasons for this decline could be that bishops view SCCs as a parish activity that can be attended to at the parish level rather than seeing them as opportunities for adult faith formation and the strengthening of people's faith, not to mention a great way to engage and equip young adults. We need to find ways to remedy this phenomenon. We are currently in the member renewal process and hope to have more member dioceses.

This raises some questions for me as to the future status of NAFSCC as an independent organization and whether it is time, not only to collaborate with other organizations as we do with the Joint Convocation (coming August 9-12, 2007 in

St. Paul, MN), but maybe consider joining forces in some way with other SCC organizations under a larger umbrella. There has been no decision on this and we have only briefly spoken about this as a board. Certainly we will, if it comes to needing such a decision, throw it out to our membership for comment. We can save this for a later time.

For now, I want to update you on five 5 Big Initiatives we have been undertaking this year and that we, as a Board, feel good about. We feel that we have a direction and are moving ahead with purpose and hope. One thing that we have learned, however, is that even the seemingly simplest things take forever!

Regular Conference Calls

We found that the most efficient way to meet is to have regular conference calls every month or every other month as needed. We have been able to accomplish our goals and move quickly rather than meet physically every six months or so. This saves time, wear and tear, and especially saves money.

Thanks to a wonderful group of people who follow through, we are accomplishing what we think needs to be done.

The E-Newsletter

We launched the E-Newsletter on September 15, 2004. Since we did not feel that we were able to have a NAFSCC Convocation due to costs, we thought that an E-Newsletter would be a quick and easy way to communicate with members every other month. It is also inexpensive and does not have to be fancy!

Sr. Marci Blum, OSF from Dubuque agreed to be the coordinator as long as we would feed her material. Currently, Board members contribute and ask people we work with to write up some news notes and articles. Margarita Hayes, from Las Cruces, keeps on top of that and has lots of people contribute. Margarita also translates articles into Spanish. Fr. Pierre Goudreault writes and translates articles into French so that we can provide resources to three language groups.

We feel that the E-Newsletter is going well judging by comments we receive. BUT, we really need contributors - we need you! I would like to see a "Good News" section letting everyone know what's happening with SCCs in your diocese: what trainings you are doing, what kinds of workshops you have, what kinds of workshops you might have attended, what resources you find helpful, how you collaborate with other diocesan offices, etc. Please send a few lines to Marci. We have asked Marci to send an email to our list serve informing everyone of the upcoming deadlines. That may remind folks to send information in. Her email is

dbqcf/af@arch.pvt.k12.ia.us or feel free to email anyone of the Board members and we will forward to Marci.

We also want articles. Please ask your constituents in parishes to write a brief reflection on their group or what they are reflecting on that would be of help to the rest of us. We know that there are thousands of groups out there so let's see if we can hear from them - and YOU!

NAFSCC Website

WE are in the process of redoing and reworking the website. Carlette Chordas from Youngstown has taken the lead on this and is really working hard at changing it and making it more accessible and interesting. We are in the process of putting up welcome letters, Board photos, articles and resource lists in English, and will be posting past issues of the E-Newsletter

Like the E-Newsletter, we also want to list your diocesan events and exciting things that you are doing. We also plan to put up announcements such as the upcoming Joint Convocation August 9-12, 2007 in St. Paul, MN.

The Membership Brochure

We redid the brochure in 3 languages to reflect out North American membership. It was a huge amount of work that took months to do and much going back and forth with the production person, the artist, and the printer, not to mention the translators, but we got it done. The artist was Emil Antonucci, artist for CHURCH Magazine and so many other magazines and book covers. He was a magnificent man who recently passed away leaving a huge void in the Catholic art world. We know that there are a few corrections that need to be made and they will be changed for the next printing.

Joint Convocation Planning - August 9-12, 2007 in St. Paul, MN

Art Baranowski of NAPRC, Peter Eichten of Buena Vista, and I discussed the possibilities of having the Joint Convocation for 2006 or 2007. We decided that 2007 made more sense since the NAFSCC was already committed to having our meeting at the NAICE meeting in 2006. After several phone conversations, we decided that Br. Bob Moriarty, SM of Hartford should be the Chair.

For the Future

For the immediate future, we plan to continue our work in the following areas:

1. Develop the website
2. Continue E-Newsletters - with your participation!

3. Continue the Networking Project
4. Promote the Joint Convocation
5. Look into the feasibility of our own NAFSCC Conference.
6. Continue building up the Membership
7. Look for new Board Members and Chair. We feel committed to the task for now but need to let some board members finish their service!
8. Continue the organization and continue the discussion as to whether it might be time to work on an umbrella organization for SCCs.

I thank all of the Board members for their work and dedication. We all work very well together and rely on you - it is all of our organization! Special thanks goes to Pierre who has been given several very large areas of responsibility by his bishop. We thank you, Pierre, for your service on the NAFSCC Board and we are so happy that you suggested that you would be a consultant. We need your expertise and your sense of humor, not to mention talent!

DISCUSSIONS AND REPORTS

Joint Convocation Planning

SR. MARCI BLUM, OSF, ARCHDIOCESE OF DUBUQUE

August 9-12, 2007 in St. Paul, MN

Marci Blum outlined the following information for us: Representatives from the Mexican American Cultural Center (MACC), Buena Vista, NAFSCC, NAPRC, USCCB have been meeting together to plan the Joint Convocation. Approximate cost includes registration and housing at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul. Fliers will be coming soon.

NAFSCC Reports on Priorities and Membership

MEMBERSHIP

DIANE KLEDZIK, DIOCESE OF ST. PETERSBURG

We have updated listings of diocesan member and contacts. We update current member information by completing membership information form yearly - so please don't forget! Membership letters, brochures and renewals are sent to bishops and all of our listed contacts. We have sent both English and French letters to Canadian bishops. Some bishops actually write us very lovely letters in response!

TREASURER'S REPORT

SR. PATRICIA FRONING, OSF, DIOCESE OF OWENSBORO

Our primary expenses were the design and printing of brochure. Expenses were also incurred for Website and postage. Note that our contribution of \$1000.00 is

seed money for the Joint Convocation and will be recuperated after the gathering in August 2007. Current membership dues are not reflected in this report. Board conference call costs are absorbed by board members' dioceses and/or organizations which is a great help and a gift!

NETWORKING PROJECT

SR. PATRICIA FRONING, OSF, DIOCESE OF OWENSBORO

We received only 23 responses this year. Only two participants of the project have SCCs as their only responsibility [1 full time, 1 part time]. Email is preferred method of participants for responding to the survey. Some members comments at our discussion: Primary purpose of the project originally was for networking, not specifically for gathering information. There is a great importance of establishing a relationship with members who may not be able to attend meetings. The project not “boring” but the electronic format. Ideas of how to address future Networking Project: Can we develop pockets of members to talk to one another? Develop a list serve for membership? The list serve could also be interesting in developing the evangelization piece. Terry, an NAFSCC member and member of the St. Petersburg diocesan core team, will assist Carlette in setting up list serve. The phone is still the preferred method for networking project.

E-NEWSLETTER

SR. MARCI BLUM, OSF, ARCHDIOCESE OF DUBUQUE

We encourage everyone to send news to Marci: articles, ideas, promotion of events, etc. Send article at least 3 weeks in advance. Fr. Alejandro, NAFSCC member from Renew International, will write a report on the conference and Sr. Donna will do a summary of this meeting to put in the E-Newsletter.

WEBSITE

CARLETTE CHORDAS, DIOCESE OF YOUNGSTOWN

Carlette showed the website on a big screen and walked us all through it to see what improvements have been made and what future plans are. We discussed priorities, objectives, and ideas for the Website which Carlette will work on with Terry Modica from the Diocese of St. Petersburg.

RESOURCES

SR. PATRICIA FRONING, OSF, DIOCESE OF OWENSBORO

The listing we have provided from networking project - what dioceses say they are using or offering to their folks. [Quest price needs correction: \$5.95]. Liturgical Press: Please contact Mike Krecji of Liturgical Publications with comments, questions on their Eucharist resource for SCCs. It has been received

very well by membership dioceses where it has been used. Mike is also seeking ideas for topics for future resources [other than Sunday/Lectionary]. Rev. Pierre Goudreault and his diocesan team of Rouyn-Noranda have developed a Lenten resources and distributed samples.

OUR NAFSCC INFLUENCE

Diane Kledzik reported on our membership in the Organizations Committee [NCOC] which was begun by Rev. John Hurley, CSP, while working as the staff to the Bishops' Committee on Evangelization of the USCCB. The Committee produced a document for boards of trustees entitled, "A Board Time to Recollect." It is a process to discern if an organization is working to evangelize. We used this used this process two years ago as a Board to develop vision for NAFSCC.

NAFSCC contributed to the process, particularly faith sharing, having great impact upon the formation of the other organizations. The document available:

www.usccb.org Department of Evangelization

NAFSCC also had influence on other USCCB documents: e.g. the language and process of Our Hearts Were Burning, Communion and Mission, and the RCIA process through North American Forum for the Catechumenate

SPECIAL DISCUSSION

Bishop Sam Jacobs, the chair of the Bishops' Committee on Evangelization of the USCCB, suggested that we have a discussion on why the Committee should remain an integral committee of the USCCB in the reorganization of the conference. He asked us to list our priorities in promoting SCCs and how we saw them related to Evangelization and in particular, to the Bishops' Committee on Evangelization.

Our question was: How can this organization impact Bishop Jacobs' question for the future of the Committee on Evangelization. We listed the following ideas and priorities:

- Small Christian Communities should be understood as a valid ecclesiology not another "program."
- Called and Gifted for the Third Millennium is full of references to SCCs and evangelization.
- We can use language from the bishops' own documents, e.g. Communion and Mission, Our Hearts Were Burning, Called and Gifted for the Third Millennium and papal documents.
- What can we do to get SCCs fully integrated: primary instrument, privileged

instrument of evangelization [see General Directory for Catechesis.]

- SCCs are renewal of the parish therefore renewal of the Church.
- Parish does not always address the needs of the people, needs are beyond “parish structures.”
- Is the mission of the Church to evangelize or not? How can the parish be faithful to the mission? SCC are a new way of being parish today.
- What is the belief or conviction of US bishops relative to SCCs?
- SCCs as welcoming to the migrant and immigrant population.
- Help bishops understand the relationship between evangelization and SCCs?
- Look up data from Bernard Lee's book, “The Catholic Experience Of Small Christian Communities”, CARA, etc.
- The questions from pastors around the country seem to be driving the bishops which are not theological questions: For example:
 - Why don't people understand what they are doing when receiving sacraments?
 - Where are the people?
 - Where is the money?
- Theological question is around the primacy of the Eucharist [not compromising our being a Eucharistic Church].
- Pastors/staff hear, “More work, more programs” when evangelization/SCCs are discussed.
- For our statement to the bishops', we need to tighten our focus:
 - address bishops' committee on evangelization.
 - Make a case for the committee to be there.
 - Promote SCCs as a significant method of evangelization and adult formation
- Develop two or three talking points for membership and encourage them write to their bishop and to Bishop Jacobs.

- Donna Ciangio, Pat Froning, Mike Krejci, and Marci Blum will work on a draft and send to this attendance for reaction. Letters may be posted in E-Newsletter.

EVALUATION

We need to move quickly to advance SCCs with the forthcoming changes in the church.

We need to increase contact with our membership in order to benefit from their experiences. We might also look at Asian and African communities to see what can be learned from them.

This was a useful conversation for discussion on evangelization [bishops' committee and reorganization] and to see that NAFSCC is still a viable organization.

Question: Should we open membership to include parish staff? Our conference and Joint Convocation is open to parishes and others. By definition we are a diocesan organization. Maybe we should offer an associate membership for organizations, etc.

Important to look at the hot issue of the USCCB conference and their reorganization; keep grounding in the questions of the bishops as brought forth in earlier discussion.

It was a very positive experience to have this meeting with the NAICE conference. Identifying us from the beginning with the red stickers allowed NAFSCC to be visible, to network. Breakfast and luncheon meeting on Sunday were great. Can think of meeting in a similar format for other national meetings such as NCCL.

The NAFSCC Board thanks you

for all of your hard work in ministry and we want to support you in any way we can. As our mission statement says, the purpose of our organization is just that, to support each other in our efforts “to achieve the vision of SCC as a style of parish life.” We hope that you will take advantage of the opportunities for networking and sharing your experience - this is a great way to support and motivate each other. Let us know what you are doing so that we can spread the “good news” through the newsletter and on the web site. We pray for all of us in the words of St. Paul,

For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that he may grant you in accord with the riches of his glory to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in the inner self, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the holy ones what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

To God who is able to accomplish far more than all we ask or imagine, by the power at work within us, to God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

In the Lord,
Donna L. Ciangio, OP
Chairperson, NAFSCC

Upcoming Events

Small Christian Community Convocation

August 9-12, 2007, University of St. Paul, MN

Sponsored by the National SCC Organizations:

North American Forum for Small Christian Communities
Buena Vista
National Alliance of Parishes Restructuring into Communities
Mexican American Cultural Center
Secretariat for Hispanic Affairs

Featured Plenary Presenters:

Fr. Ronald Rolheiser, O.M.I
Mr. Brian Rusche
Sr. Katarina Schuth, O.S.F.
Fr. Arthur Baranowski
Fr. Jose Marins

Practical workshops offered in afternoons. Flier will be available soon. Mark your calendars.

Share Your Views

Pourquoi évangéliser?

Fr. Pierre Goudreault

En juillet dernier, j'ai participé à un congrès tenu à Cincinnati aux Etats-Unis. Ce colloque était organisé par *l'Institut nord-américain sur l'évangélisation* et par le *Forum nord-américain sur les petites communautés de foi*. Environ trois cents personnes ont participé aux activités du congrès pour réfléchir sur *L'évangélisation dans une culture de diversité*. C'est le cardinal André Rodriguez Maradiaga, archevêque de Tegucigalpa au Honduras, qui a prononcé la conférence d'ouverture. Son entretien et celui des autres conférenciers m'ont permis de prendre davantage conscience que la mission essentielle de l'Église consiste à évangéliser. Cette tâche nous revient puisque c'est nous qui formons l'Église.

Évangéliser, c'est être témoins dans le monde d'aujourd'hui du Christ ressuscité qui nous appelle à former une famille humaine capable de paix, de justice, d'amour et de solidarité. L'évangélisation est ce processus qui soutient l'humanité dans son désir de se transformer de l'intérieur pour retrouver sa liberté et sa dignité. Cela se vit concrètement dans le quotidien de la vie. Bien accomplir son travail, aimer les membres de sa famille, aider une personne en détresse, voilà des gestes tangibles d'évangélisation.

C'est une richesse d'évangéliser dans une société marquée par la diversité. Il peut s'agir de la diversité de cultures, d'idées ou d'individus. La rencontre de la différence invite au dépassement pour vivre le respect des cultures, le dialogue avec l'autre et l'accueil des personnes. La diversité nous rappelle que chaque être humain, créé à l'image de Dieu, est unique et porteur d'un trésor dans son cœur. C'est pourquoi la diversité révèle la générosité de Dieu pour l'humanité. Dieu crée ainsi une magnifique mosaïque d'hommes et de femmes.

De plus en plus, l'Église se renouvelle pour aller à la rencontre de cette diversité dans le monde d'aujourd'hui. Elle y réussit bien par l'avènement des petites communautés de foi ou des petits groupes qui émergent ici et là. Dans ces petits rassemblements, des hommes et des femmes de tout horizon, de toute culture, de tout cheminement de foi trouvent un lieu d'accueil et de confiance. Cela leur permet de faire une relecture de leur vie à la lumière de l'évangile, de recevoir de l'entraide et de s'accorder un temps de formation. Ces petites communautés offrent à leurs membres la possibilité de développer des liens durables entre eux. Elles

sont un chemin prometteur pour soutenir l'évangélisation. Vous avez le goût de découvrir une nouvelle manière d'être Église? Contactez la paroisse Sainte-Trinité à Rouyn-Noranda (819-762-4751) pour en savoir plus sur les petits groupes et les petites communautés de foi. C'est une agréable façon de trouver un mieux-être pour vivre!-

NAICE Conference

Fr. Alejandro López-Cardinale

About 300 people from various parts of the United States, Canada and other countries gathered at NAICE (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on Evangelization and its United States Commission on Catholic Evangelization). The topic of the conference was : “Evangelizing God's People in a Culture of Diversity.”

Addressed to USA Catholic Church situation, Cardinal Rodriguez from Honduras addressed the American Catholic Church situation. We are to evangelize to promote a just and developed society. We evangelize so as to promote a challenge to transform our societies and our lives as well. Evangelization and social justice are and go together.

Fr. Peter C. Phan's presentation was limited by time and he was not able to develop his contribution. He proposed looking at the topics in three ways-political, cultural and religious-as a challenge in evangelization. Fr. Paul and Ms. Brenda E. Webb talked from their experiences through the lenses of the Indian and African Communities. It was good seeing how pastoral agents could step back away from their practices and offer a practical theological approach to evangelize in specific situations.

Dr. Jamie Phelps introduced us on how to evangelize in an African-American context, looking from the “ortho-doxy”, the “ortho-praxis”, and the “ortho-pathos.” Fr. John Rausch and Ms. Arvilla Rank helped us to see the efforts and experiences lived among Appalachians and deaf people.

The best of the day, in my criteria, was the table discussions and the homily from Fr. J-Glenn Murray, SJ., on the Mass. In the table discussion,s we talked about the real problem we have at the moment to look at and organize our pastoral plans and keep close to the main sense to “evangelize from the Gospel” and “evangelize our people, answering their needs and their expectations.” Fr. Murray reminded us

how important it is to live in our own life salvation and share this good news with others.

From what I heard of Fr. Robert Barron's speech, he reminded us what evangelization is about: a kerygmatical announcement of Jesus. Others speeches, as Fr. Frank DeSiano and Sr. Eva Marie Lumas described the struggles to evangelize in extreme situations.

To me, the most important part of the conference was the table discussion and the different approaches to evangelize through the USA, Canada and Latin America. In spite of the differences, the speakers focused on the deep sense of the need to announce Jesus and build a community of faith are key elements of the evangelization.

Dialogue and a question session with a panel provided a sense of the diverse experiences in San Antonio, the Hmong Community in Minnesota, and in Baltimore.

Adele Gonzalez joined us with her traditional sense of humor in helping us to look at the power of the Word of God and the implications at the moment to evangelize and reach out.

Monsignor Garcia-Siller also improved the quality of this Saturday with his great homily, encouraging us to announce the good news to others.

Personal appreciations

- Even though evangelizing is a constitutive task to the Church, there are not consensuses in what approach prioritizes;
- Even though evangelizing is a constitutive task to the Church, not everybody sees the deep and urgent needs to contextualize the evangelization process;
- Even though evangelizing is a constitutive task of the Church, in many heads and souls of the members of the Church remain the idea of sacraments and sacramental life is all what the Catholics need;
- But my main concern about all of this is the deep inconsistently theology behind the lines. I explain myself.
- For many years, in the soul of the Catholic Church, the evangelization has consisted in announcing Christ but through the sacraments, rather than proclaiming the kerygma -many times associated to the Protestants-. After Vatican II, the Catholic Church has tried to recover the kerygmatical dimension of this announcement in deep communion with the sacraments, as we can see in *Dei Verbum* and *Sacrosanctum Concilium*.
- But, for many reasons: historically, ideologically, structurally, our

evangelization has been moved separated and sometimes, isolated from the experience of the sacraments. We can see this problem in the *General Directory for the Catechesis*. All of the presenters, direct or indirectly, talked about liturgy rather than sacraments. And it's not in the liturgy where we can try to evangelize people living on this kind of diverse world but we can do it from and through the sacraments.

Fr. Alejandro López-Cardinale is writing his doctoral dissertation. He works for Renew International and can be contacted on their website: www.renewintl.org. Fr. Alejandro is a member of NAFSCC and was asked to share his reflections on the NAICE Conference in Cincinnati.

What's Going On with SCCs?

Share your good news what you are doing with Small Christian Communities. Contact NAFSCC "web person," Carlette Chordas, Diocese of Youngstown: cchordas@youngstowndiocese.org. She will put your ideas and activities on the NAFSCC website: www.nafsc.org.

Good News Column

What Do Distance Learning and Small Christian Communities Have In Common? One Really Great Day!

Mary Carter

On May 6, 2006, our diocese of Las Cruces was treated to a Small Christian Community Spring Workshop hosted by Sr. Donna Ciangio who flew in from the National Pastoral Life Center in New York to facilitate. What made this workshop unique for all, including Sr. Donna, was that we were able to try out the new Distance Learning capabilities recently set up in our diocese. The Las Cruces Pastoral Center was home to the event; however, Silver City, Artesia, and Roswell, all smaller cities in our diocese, were able to join us without actually traveling to headquarters (Las Cruces). They did this by going to a particular diocesan website set up for distance learning, turning on their web cameras and microphones. It was quite an adventure for all of us to see the participants in other cities join in our discussions and they could view Sr. Donna's presentation and slide shows. The trickiest part for all of us was remembering to talk into the microphones; but by the end of the day, we had that down to perfection.

This was my first time participating in Sr. Donna's Small Christian Community Workshops and as we opened in prayer, 1 Corinthians 12:4-11, I felt blessed by the opportunity for learning that this day held. Margarita Hayes lit a candle and mentioned that our God-given gifts are like the candle she lit, lighting the way for

our journey with Jesus and helping us to lead others on their journey too. Learning about the stages of conversion was a very helpful tool in allowing us to discern where we are on this sojourn with Christ. To learn where our friends, coworkers and family members are on their faith journeys enables us to help them develop a sense of community and mission. As we delved deeply into small Christian communities; how to form them well; and the benefits reaped by such communities of faith, it left all us lit by the fire of our gifts and anxious to head back to our own parishes ready to commit to my favorite quotable quote of the day: “Think of every meeting in the parish as an opportunity for evangelization and adult formation!” Thank you Sr. Donna, and thank You Jesus, for the gifts that you bestow upon us, and the people you send our way...Mary Carter

Mary Carter is a wife and mother of four children. Mary is very involved in her parish, St. Francis Newman Center in Las Cruces, NM; she directs two bible study groups, and attending her third year of the Ministries Study Program.

**¿Que tienen en común las pequeñas comunidades cristianas
y el sistema de aprendizaje a larga distancia? Un gran día**

Mary Carter

El 6 de mayo la Hna. Donna Ciangio, presentó para La Diócesis de Las Cruces un taller sobre las Pequeñas Comunidades Cristianas. Lo que hizo este taller especial para todos incluso la Hna. Donna fue el haber sido transmitido vía el Internet a diferentes localidades de la Diócesis. El Centro Pastoral de la Diócesis de Las Cruces fue el punto central del evento; sin embargo Silver City, Artesia y Roswell, todas ciudades más pequeñas en nuestra diócesis, pudieron participar sin tener que viajar al Centro Pastoral. Esto lo hicieron visitando un sitio Web establecido para aprendizaje a larga distancia y usando sus cámaras y teléfono. Fue una aventura para todos nosotros ver a los participantes de las otras ciudades unirse a nuestras discusiones y observar la presentación de la Hna. Donna y las diapositivas proyectados en la pantalla. La parte más difícil fue recordar acercarse a los teléfonos, pero después de un tiempo éramos unos expertos manejando el aparato.

Está fue la primera vez que participaba en un taller sobre las Pequeñas Comunidades Cristianas con la Hna. Donna. Al comenzar la oración con la carta a los Corintios 12:4-11 me sentí bendecida por la gran oportunidad de aprender que este día me brindaba. Margarita Hayes prendió un cirio y mencionó que los dones que Dios nos ha dado son como el cirio que ella encendía, iluminando nuestro camino hacia Jesús y el sendero para ayudar a otros en su peregrinaje también.

Aprender sobre las diferentes fases de la conversión fue un instrumento muy útil para ayudarnos a discernir a dónde estamos con Cristo en esta morada pasajera. Aprender dónde están nuestros amigos, compañeros de trabajo y familia en su viaje de fe nos permite ayudarlos a desarrollar un sentido de comunidad y misión. Al explorar profundamente las comunidades cristianas, cómo formarlas y los beneficios cosechados por estas comunidades de fe, nuestros corazones quedaron enardecidos con la llama de nuestros dones, el entusiasmo y deseos de ir a nuestras parroquias listos a comprometernos a poner en práctica la cita de día: “Piensen en cada reunión en su parroquia como una oportunidad para evangelizar y formarnos en la fe”.

Gracias a la Hna. Donna, y gracias a ti Jesús, por los dones que nos has concedido, y por todos aquellos que tú nos pones en nuestro camino...

Mary Cartes es esposa y madre de cuatro niños. Mary es muy activa en su parroquia St. Francis Newman Center en Las Cruces, NM. Ella dirige dos grupos de estudios bíblicos y esta cursando su tercer año del Programa de Formación Ministerial

Resources

SCC Resource Materials

Gleaned from Participants in the 2006 NAFSCC Networking Project

Eucharist: Source & Summit - Liturgical Publications Inc.

(www.CatholicFaithSharing.com)

Following Christ: The Gospel According to Mark - Liturgical Publications, Inc.

(www.CatholicFaithSharing.com)

Daybreaks: Reflections for Lent and Easter - Fr. Ron Rolheiser or John Kavanaugh, SJ, Liguori Publications. Cost: \$1.00. Website:

<http://www.liguori.org/>

Un Nuevo Comienzo: Reflexiones Diarias Sobre las Lecturas, - Rudy Finke,

Liguori Publications. Cost: \$1.00. Website: <http://www.liguori.org/>

At Home with the Word/ Palabra de Dios - Liturgy Training Publications, 800-933-1800. Connects the Sunday scriptures within the context of the world as we see it today. Available in English and Spanish. Cost: \$7.00 per book. Bulk

discount 5-99 copies @ \$5.00. Website: www.ltp.org

Disciples on the Journey/Discipulos en la Jornada - booklet from the Diocese of Victoria, Texas. Booklets are sold in packs of 10 @ \$ 35.00 per pack plus shipping/handling. Call the Diocese of Victoria in Texas at 1-866-590-3688 or e-mail calvarez@victoriadiocese.org

Companions on the Journey, Lenten series 8 weekly pamphlets. Twenty Third Publications. Cost: Single \$4.00; Bulk pricing available. Website: <http://www.twentythirdpublications.com/>

Awakening to God - Cycle B - Fran Salone-Pelletier, Twenty-Third Publications. Cost: \$19.95; Website: <http://www.twentythirdpublications.com/>

Disciples in Mission Materials - PNCEA, the Paulists, 202-832-5022. Available in 4 languages: English, Spanish, Vietnamese and Korean. Cost: \$32.00 per packet of 10 participant booklets. Website: www.disciplesinmission.org

To Be Like Jesus: Reflections for Lent/Siqueme: Reflecciones para Cuaresma St. Anthony Messenger Press, 800-488-0488. Available in English and Spanish. Cost: \$2.60per booklet. Website: www.americancatholic.org/

Lenten Longings Cycle B - Renew International, 908-769-5400. Cost: \$3.50 per booklet. Website: www.renewintl.org/

Emmaus Journey - Lectionary-based Website material for Small Groups - download for free! Emmaus Journey, 719-599-0448. Basic Scripture Study Series, \$5.00. Website: www.emmausjourney.org

Share the Word - PNCEA (Paulist National Catholic Evangelization Association) 202-832-5022. Annual subscription: \$18.00 or bulk subscription 10-49 copies @ \$1.85. Website: www.sharetheword.net

The Word Among Us/La Palabra Entre Nosotros, Monthly magazine Issue meditations and articles. Annual Subscription Cost: \$22.95. Website: www.wau.org

Magnificat- Monthly liturgical guide with readings and meditations. Annual Subscription Cost: \$39.95. Website: www.magnificat.net

In Conversations with God, Volume 2: Lent and Eastertide, by Francis Fernandez, Scepter Publishers. Cost: \$17.95. Website: www.scepterpublishers.org

Quest and Gatherings - Diocese of Hartford, 860-243-9642. Cost: \$5.95 per seasonal booklet. Website: www.sccquest.org/

Sunday Faith Sharing - Renew International. Website: www.Renewintl.org/FaithSharing/index.htm

Refreshed by the Word Cycle B - John O'Brien, Renew International, 908-769-5400. Cost: \$10.95 per book. Website: www.renewintl.org/

Sharing The Lectionary for Lent 2006 - Resource Publications. Cost: \$9.95 per booklet. Website: <http://www.rpinet.com/>

Lenten Lunches: Reflections on the Weekday Readings for Lent and Easter - Bishop Pilarczyk, St. Anthony Messenger Press. Cost: \$7.95. Website: www.americancatholic.org

Reading the Gospels with the Church, Christmas through Easter - Raymond Brown, St. Anthony Messenger Press. Cost: \$7.95. Website: www.americancatholic.org

Praying with the Word: Lent, Holy Week, Easter - David Haas, St. Anthony Messenger Press. Cost: \$11.95. Website: www.americancatholic.org

A Retreat with John Paul II: Be Not Afraid - See series "A Retreat with" titles, St. Anthony Messenger Press. Cost: \$9.95. Website: www.americancatholic.org/

A Quiet Place Apart - St. Mary's Press. Cost: \$11.95-\$17.95. Website: www.smp.org

30 Days with a Great Spiritual Teacher - "30 Days with" titles, Ave Maria Press. Cost: \$9.95
Website: www.avemariapress.com

15 Days of Prayer with a Saint - See "15 Days of Prayer with" titles, Liguori Press. Cost: \$7.95 Website: www.liguori.org

Praying in the Presence of our Lord - See other titles in the “Praying in the Presence” series, Our Sunday Visitor Press. Cost: \$7.95. Website: www.osv.com.

The Sunday Readings in Our Lives - Fran Salone-Pelletier - *Twenty-Third Publications* www.23rdpublications.com \$19.95

DAILY REFLECTIONS FOR ADVENT Prepare the Way Kathy Coffey, *St. Anthony Messenger Press* www.catalog.AmericanCatholic.org \$2.95

Behold, He Comes: Meditations on the Incarnation - Daily Readings from Advent to Epiphany *Benedict Groeschel, C.F.R. Servant Publications, St. Anthony Messenger Press* Catalog www.americancatholic.org \$8.95

Advent and Christmas with the Saints - *Liguori Publications* www.liguori.org
(800) 325-9521 \$9.95

Small Group Materials from the Diocese of Oakland, free:
<http://www.oakdiocese.org/pastoral/SCC/>

Facilitating for Growth - Fleischer offers the theory and the application process to make this a friendly process

Small Group Booklets for Advent - *Mary Abinante, Philip Abinante, Judith Robb Eggerman* - Ministry Center for Catholic Community 206-763-6222 \$3.95 each
Connecting Others to Jesus

Simple Ways Catholics Can Share Faith

Adventure Bible Timeline DVD series

Catholic Biblical Study Program

Paroisse Sainte-Trinité - Rouyn-Noranda

Guide d'animation Parole et vie

Animation Guide Word and Life.
Parole et vie

Word and Life

Sunday by Sunday

Word to Life

Catholic Conversations

Why Catholic? and other Renew International materials

Living Like Francis Today

GROWING FAITH PROJECT

Catholic Perspective Series - Loyola Press

Signposts

Following Christ: The Gospel According to Mark (Spanish)

Word and Worship Workshop

Dos and Don'ts for Facilitators - NPLC

Exploring the Sunday Readings from Twenty Third Publications

Disciples on the Journey - Diocese of Victoria, Texas

Pastoring the Pastors by Art Baranowski

Called to Lead by Susan Golas

Faith Sharing for Small Christian Communities by Rev. Arthur Baranowski

Creating Small Christian Communities by Barbara Darling

Para Meditar Las Lecturas Dominicales Published by Twenty-Third Publications

Disciples en la Jornada created by the Diocese of Victoria, TX

Reflexiones Catolicas sobre la Biblia by Adele Gonzalea

Buena Vista materials

RENACER materials

Materiales para la Cuaresma from the Diocese of Oakland

Works written by Marcel Legaut (French)

Rev. Jose Marins resources (Spanish)

MOMS materials from Ministry of MOMS

Separated and Divorced materials

Bereavement materials

PNCEA materials

NAPRC vision/resources

DeSales videos

Little Rock Bible Study

Church Article on Small Communities

Today's Parish Article on Adult Faith Formation

Ministry Services from Seattle

Stewardship topics

Catholic Social Teachings

Invitation Extended

We want to hear what you are doing with Small Christian Communities in your dioceses to share with our members. Send in your events and activities to Sr. Marci Blum to be put in the e-newsletter. E-mail: DBQCFL/AF@arch.pvt.k12.ia.us.

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