

## **Western Region Joint Organizations Meeting**

**July 4, 2002**

**San Diego, California**

President Irene Saigh called the meeting to order at 2:22 PM.

His Grace, Bishop JOSEPH led us in the opening prayer.

Michael Srour & Scott Farris made a presentation about the 2003 Conference. They thanked the Conference Committee for their hard work. The Conference is being held at the Scottsdale Radisson Resort & Spa at room rate of \$89 per night, plus a \$5 resort fee. They asked for input on Schedule and Ticket book Prices. They gave a video presentation. They addressed the controversy over the Bible Bowl Schedule. Several people expressed concerns with the current schedule. The Reverend Father Christopher Salamy thanked Michael Srour. He indicated that the intent was to create a Parish and Family Life Conference. They will try to take schedule suggestions into consideration.

Teen SOYO President Juliana Turk talked about the successful meeting that the teens had. The Bishop's remarks inspired them. They recorded songs for the NAC Project. They had 12 churches and 50 teens in attendance. They set up an E-mail list to improve communication. She introduced the new officers.

AOCWNA President Georgette Malouf talked about the meeting that the ladies had. There were 125 ladies in attendance at the brunch. They have done two newsletters and two retreats. They have a website going.

Fellowship of St. John the Divine President Irene Saigh talked about the productive meeting that the Fellowship had. They did some brainstorming and think that there needs to be a better transition from Teen SOYO to the Fellowship.

Western Region College Contact Peter Samore discussed his role in helping to foster new members in the Fellowship. He invited all High School seniors to an event on Saturday Night.

Mareena Boosamra-Ball discussed the Fellowship CD Project. The profits of the CDs go directly to missions.

The Reverend Father Nicholas Borzghol made a presentation about the 2002 Fall Delegates Meeting hosted by St. Nicholas Church of San Francisco from November 1-3. The room rate is \$69 per night.

The Very Reverend Father Michael Lewis, Anna Nasser, and Lew Malouf presented the report on the 2004 Parish Life Conference. Chuck Nassif moved to accept the Crown Plaza Resort at a room rate of \$99 per night. Seconded by Bill Kroah. MOTION PASSED

His Grace, Bishop JOSEPH gave the following address:

The most important thing is to be together in the conference. We have to change our mind and mentality to not fight. I cannot ignore the people present here. It is good to have this democracy and freedom to challenge each other. If you bring us to a fancy hotel like this, I don't care. You call me crazy, I am. I care about you. Everyone present here is important. I am not going to read my vision because it is long. I will leave this for later. Try to be different from one year to another. Try to be different. My ego and selfishness needs to disappear. Let Christ be presented to the people. I asked the clergy to remember your calling. You cannot be dictators; it is a ministry of love. Do everything out of love. The Order of St Ignatius is not about money, but mercy. The Ministry of the Women is a demonstration of devotion to the Lord. The Fellowship's ministry is one of community. As you build up communities and relationship. The fellowship is more than social gatherers. As long as all of you keep your focus on God, you can defeat the devil. The Teen SOYO is the future. People who fall into drugs and other evil things surround you. All of our young people know of our Lords mercy. To the Choirs and Chanters your ministry is one to pray and lead others in prayer. They proclaim the mercy and goodness of God. To everyone else, never forget the Gospel. Success is not in how much we accomplish in our goals, but rather the progress of the entire church. This is what I want to see accomplished in every Parish Life Conference. Our faith is in danger. You do not know the challenge in our ministry. We have serious problems in the faith. Our responsibility in the conference is to bring everyone to life and awaken them. This is my ministry. Sometimes I make jokes, but you have to understand your calling. Before this conference, nights and days, I was preparing myself for what kind of message you want me to give to you. People come from Alaska and Washington to witness Christ, not anyone else. I need you to all be witnesses.

His Grace, Bishop JOSEPH led us in the closing prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:57 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Michael Habib  
Western Region Fellowship of St. John the Divine  
Recording Secretary