

NCVR Eastern Region Meeting, Chicago, March 19, 2019

Present were: Sr. Ann David Strohming, OSF; Chairperson; Sister Gabrielle Braccio, RSM; Sr. Paulina Hurtado, OP; Sr. Gilmory Kay, RSM; Maryann Seton Lopiccolo, SC; Sr. Mariette Moan, ASCJ; Sr. Patricia Moran, CIJ; Sr. Anna Hang-Nga Nguyen, SCC; Sr. Nancy Strillacci, ACSJ; Sr. Jean Thompson, OSF. and Sister Patricia Wormann, OP.

Excused: Sr. Elizabeth Castro, HMSP

- I. After a brief prayer, the meeting opened with discussion on the Intercultural reality of the Church in our time, a topic presented by Sr. Teresa Maya, CCVI, from San Antonio, TX, at the 51th National Conference of Vicars for Religious. How can we encounter and engage in practical ways the various cultures in our diocese and in our region?

Some preliminary comments and ideas were as follows:

- Try to communicate to the Region and to our various Congregations, information and suggestions on how to implement our newly experienced awareness regarding various cultures in our midst..
- Trinity University in Washington D.C. will be hosting a gathering at which Sr. Mary Johnson et al will provide discussion on her book and highlight International Sisters, CLINIC (Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. <https://cliniclegal.org/>); Migration for Mission: Catholic Migration in USA
- Continuing Education with speakers on NRRO (National Religious Retirement Office), RFC (Religious Formation Conference), NCVR.
- Dinner for Indian sisters and priests to learn about their cultures.
- Calls to encounter and to talk about their experiences and culture.
- Invite members from International Communities to have a picnic as a way of encounter.
- Gather international sisters for conversation and give information on NRRO, SOAR, ACCRUS and others.
- Other comments and questions regarding Vicars responsibilities were mentioned: Best practices regarding Visitation and other services to individual religious and communities.

- II. Preliminary ideas in preparation for the October Eastern Region Conference, to be held at Mount Alvernia Retreat Center, Wappinger Falls, NY, on October 29-31, 2019.

Topics suggested:

- Healing the Church

- Canonical questions on Monasteries, establishing houses, Canonical Houses, tax exemption

Proposed names as presenters: Sr. Rose McDermott and Rev. John Collins

- Unconscious biases.
- Transitions

Resource persons from NCVR and LCWR for suggestions on presenters.

Sr. Ann David Strohmingler made mention of responsibilities for the Fall Conference. New Vicars volunteers offered their names adding to the previous list. Sister Anne David will be sending more information on plans for the Fall Conference.

Respectfully submitted by,

Sr. Paulina Hurtado, O.P.