

Stewardship Networking Group

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

MARCH 2024 Stewardship Networking Meeting – NOTES

THANK YOU, St Ignatius of Loyola for hosting our meeting, warm hospitality including breakfast goodies. Thank you to Deacon Scott Glueck, Director of Community Life at St Ignatius, for his sharing on our topic: “Multicultural Communities”. A great offering filled with anecdotes and personal narratives.

A thank you to all who attended and warm welcome to new attendees like Nina, St Mary’s in Texas City, Yolanda, Christ the Good Shepherd, Michele, Immaculate Conception and Steve, St Mary Magdalene Humble.

Deacon Scott shared from his personal, professional and way of life experiences and started us with the scripture 1 Cor 12:12 “One body many parts...” He talked about his experience at St Ignatius where it was founded with 90% white and today it is 50% white having the other 50% made up of more than 6 major Ethnic groups. Below are the notes:

1. Look at and learn about the cultures within the cultures. Hispanics, speak Spanish, but come from many countries, some words translate to different meanings in different countries as well as food., etc. Realize the importance of how people act and treat their children. (crying child in Hispanic Mass, they are not taken out of church as in other Masses) dress etc. Filipino, Vietnamese, African ethnicities have their own traditions, dress, foods, etc. Be sensitive to others’ culture.
2. **MUST HAVE SUPPORT** from the top! Fr. Norbert, St. Ignatius “we are one big parish, we are all together, invite the whole parish, do it in the language that the person is used to; why can’t we go to Mass in Spanish; Jesus didn’t speak English”.
3. Come together, “We are one body...”, for gatherings, come together side by side all, everyone, whole family. For workshops all together for prayer, separate in own language, come back together for discussion. Bilingual Masses, start with warm greetings and hospitality for all. Bilingual Mass print worship aids in English/Spanish. Celebrate other cultural feast days, traditions and invite all the parish community. “We are one body...” Parish feast days invite all to share their foods, diversity, dress, etc. Diversity also spans the handicap, blind, autism, etc. “thank you Deacon for your insightful sharing”

Other comments: Music is the key to coming together opens the heart; Stop saying *fundraising* and use *sacrificial giving*. Realize there might be lower income levels in different cultures, don’t assume they are not giving. View your parish community and what works in your community. We are Stewards, not volunteers, share your gifts, we all have ownership in our parish. Educational/other workshops “know your audience”, different levels of education in different groups, not all catechized, not all able to read/write, etc.

Comments/questions/ideas to share: please send them to. Mark your calendar now for our next meeting! coniperez@sbcglobal.net or starons@stbchurch.org

2024 Calendar	
9-May-24	ROUNDTABLE: Successful Ministry Fairs (<i>Christ the Good Shepherd, Spring Tx</i>)
11-July-24	Caring for Creation: Jenny Nutzman (St. Laurence Sugarland Tx)
12-Sept-24	Communicating Stewardship: Sean O'Driscoll (<i>St. Anne Houston Tx</i>)
14-Nov-24	Best of ICSC / Plan 2025 (<i>St Bernadette Clear Lake City</i>)