

Deacon Council Meeting Minutes (Unapproved)

April 2, 2016

Present:

Fr. Carlos Espinoza, Dn. Louis Roman, Dn. Ken Quade, Dn. Tony Torrez, Dn. Tony Dominguez

Absent:

Dc. Art Gutierrez, Dn. David McNeil, Dn. Roger Montes

Excused:

Dn. Leonel Briseno

Called to Order:

Meeting was called to order by Dn. Tony Torrez Fr. Carlos led the opening prayer

Approval of Minutes

Changes to the January Minutes, Tony Torrez name was misspelled; it is spelled with a z and not an s. Also Deacon Art Gutierrez was present for the meeting.

Minutes approved with the changes.

CREATION OF A DEACON COUNCIL CALENDAR FOR 2016 and 2017

- Discussion of possible times for the next quarterly meeting: August, Sometime during the Eucharistic Congress. Either before the Congress starts or at a convenient time that does not interfere with Congress activities. Having the meeting after the end of the Congress was also discussed. No decision was made as the schedule for the Congress needs to be completed before a decision can be made.
- Meeting Dates Discussed and set
 - June 4, 2016 Deacon Council
 - June 4, 2016 Deacon Study Day in Las Cruces Location to be determined
 - August 19-21, 2016 Deacon Annual Retreat Holy Cross Retreat Center
 - November 5, 2016 Deacon Council
 - December 3, 2016 Deacon Council and Study Day...Possible recognition celebration of Deacons. This should be some type of social event. The meetings and events will be in Carlsbad.
 - March 4, 2017 Deacon Council

- June 3, 2017 Deacon Council
- August 11-13, Deacon Retreat, Location to be determined.
- October 7, 2017 Deacon Council
- Recommendation is for the meetings to be rotated between the different vicariates. Calendar also needs to include dates for continuing education
- Since all Deacons are being requested to attend the Diocesan Eucharistic Congress, deacons need to be assigned for the Eucharistic Congress mass. The Deacon Council made the following decision on this matter:
 - Opening mass and procession Roswell Vicariate will be assigned
 - Closing Mass: Las Cruces Vicariate
- All deacons attending the masses and not serving should be vested in albs and stole
- August Deacon Retreat Closing mass: Mesilla Valley Vicariate
- The question was raised; Is there going to be a Mariachi mass and are deacons needed for youth rally mass

LODGING FOR DEACON CANDIDATES

- Discussed possibility of Ordained Deacon couples providing a room for a candidate couple during their formation weekend.
- The only night a room would be needed would be Friday night.
- Since this is voluntary deacons would be notified when the program starts and it would be up to the Permanent Deacon couple to invite a couple in formation.

ANNUAL DEACON RETREAT

- At the Houston NADD conference Deacon Lou will check with the other directors for recommendations for speakers
- Suggestion was made to continue program for wives, but to be careful on who is scheduled.
- Year of Mercy was discussed as a possible theme for this year's retreat. Theology of Pope Francis as it relates to the Year of Mercy

DEACON ASPIRANCY FORMATION PROGRAM

- Discussed the Aspirancy program and handed out the proposed document that establishes the program
- Deacon Tony Torrez recommended that Deacon Richard Rodriguez become the coordinating deacon for the East Side of the Diocese.
- Deacon Tony expressed a desire to assist Deacon Richard.

VICARIATE REPORTS

- Tularosa: no issues

- Carlsbad Vicariate: Deacons setting their own standards. Such as a deacon who asks the congregation to stand while he reads the obituary during a Vigil service. Other deacons setting up their own services that are outside the rites and rubrics. Construction at St. Edwards is 80 to 85 % Complete.
- Roswell: Covenants need to be updated.
- Las Cruces: Things going well

Covenants

Reminder to all Deacons: Covenants need to be current

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned, Deacon Tony Dominguez led the closing prayer.