

Notes from CAVA End of Year Gathering

May 29, 2019

Little Sisters of the Poor Community

What might we be called to “let go” of at this time in our CAVA experience?

What is the “criteria” for deciding what to let go of? Is it in line with our strategic plan?

People who are moving on from vocation ministry

Parish presentations

Expectations of numbers that come for events

Expectations that people participate if they can't because of illness, work demands, emergencies, etc.

What might we be called to continue to “let be” at this time in our CAVA experience?

Young adult events

Relationships/networking/collaboration/friendships

Reaching out to schools and parishes and offering our collective presence

Pizza with Volunteers

Busy Person Retreats (retraining workshop needed, need dates earlier)

Discernment Retreat

Young Adult Retreat

CAVA Gatherings – beginning and end of year, Advent. Education Day – need dates set early

Chicago's Got Sisters and Notre Dame ACE Program

Regular “check-in” at gatherings – helps us to know one another

Reflection/times of prayer

Communication planning, monthly newsletter, member updates

What might we be invited to “let come” at this time in our CAVA experience?

Try to have “working meetings” where we can come together to accomplish tasks together rather than liturgy and prayer (Please – no judgment here...coming a distance, we would just like to make the best use of our time.

Try to get a calendar of events a year in advance

Create an extended community living experience (2-3 weeks)

Consider ways to simply “be” and share together as a way of supporting one another in the ministry

Work on strengthening ties with NRVC, Catholics on Call, CTU, etc.

More presence in parishes and schools – religious are becoming invisible

Include older vocations in activities or have some special events aimed at older vocations.

Enthusiasm and renewed energy and creativity

More use of technology for meetings

Educate parents and grandparents

Collaborate with campus ministers

Creative gatherings, networking at meetings, purposeful time together

NEW STRUCTURE

Personal calls and invitations

Hold some “best practices” sessions

OTHER COMMENTS

More process conversation without naming specific activities

Conversation about Connection to Diocese/ Institutions

Current possibilities – parishes are tough, Vicariates I and IV are good

Vicariate I – Vocation contacts (Marta S)

Vicariate IV – Altar Server Day

Young Adult Engagement Team – soft entries, Theology on Tap

Vocation Office – two years new director, focus on Diocesan priesthood, a wall being hit

Needed: connection with Diocesan leaders Office for Education, High School and University Campus Ministers, Hispanic Ministries (Erika Gallardo), Communications Department and Social Media

Vocation Committees – start with parishes and schools that are receptive to this

Archdiocesan website – landing page for vocations with monthly video feature – Brothers, Sisters, priests, ministries, highlights, “Did You Know”, “Vocation Voices

Diocesan activities – presence (Holy Fire, Theology on Tap, Alpha, servers

Conversation about Young Adult Outreach

Try to plug into some of the National events – FOCUS, SEEK, YCCYM, NCYC, Steubenville Conferences that are held regionally

Choose a few specific places to build relationships and offer simple consistent presence and service. Don't try to be everywhere at every event.

Lots of energy around hosting service groups and working with them – let's not be afraid to get our hands dirty and simply do what our young people are doing!