

Living Our Faith Update
3-13-26

Last night the Living Our Faith group met for our monthly meeting. Trish facilitated the meeting and we opened with a lively partner-discussion about what it means to "serve." At the end of the meeting, she shared a beautiful prayer, entitled *Being Present* and it is attached below.

Welcome Committee: Paul reported that there were no updates about new parishioners in the community, but he will continue to coordinate with the Parish Office regarding new families.

A Welcome Committee-adjacent reminder: Please remember to attend the **St. Patrick's Day Pot-Luck Dinner** sponsored by the CCC Hospitality Committee and the Men's Club, **THIS Saturday evening, (i.e. tomorrow!) March 14th at 6:00 p.m.** (following the 5:00 p.m. mass). It promises to be a fun (some might say, "raucous") event!

Book Group: Marie shared that the Living Our Faith Book Group will meet **THIS Sunday, March 15th from 9:15 am - 10:15 a.m.** in the Family Chapel. There's still plenty of time to read *Dilexi Te*, Pope Leo's Exhortation on Love for the Poor, which we will be discussing. You'll find the 20-page document [here](#). We hope you'll join us as we learn more about the call to serve the poor.

Genesis: Mary noted that there have been two Genesis-sponsored Catholic Faithful Witness events in the past month. Rich discussions took place about how to serve our Immigrant neighbors in the face of the many challenges that currently exist for them.

She also announced that on **April 16th, from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.**, there will be a **Faithful Witness Protecting Immigrants opportunity at the San Francisco Immigration Court**. This event is sponsored by Action and Justice Committee of St. John's Episcopal Church, Oakland. Please see the attached flyer for more information.

Additionally, Mary invited folks to attend the **Genesis Issues event on April 11th from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at First Congregational Church, Oakland** to learn more about the two Genesis-sponsored campaigns: Defense of Immigrants and Public Transit/Disability Justice. Please see the attached flyer to RSVP.

Giving Tree/Food Bank: Jim shared that the **final** accounting of the Advent Giving Tree drive raised \$2500 in gift cards for St. Mary's Center, over \$9,000 in gift cards for Oakland Catholic Worker (OCW) PLUS an additional \$1500 in cash (which came in after the drive was over) that was given to OCW last week.

Trish shared that over the past 2.5 years, the Corpus Christi Community has donated **over \$17,000 and over 3,000 pounds of food** to the Alameda County

Community Food Bank!!! The generosity of the Corpus Christi community continues to astound!

Oakland Catholic Worker (OCW): Jim reported that there are significant concerns about the Oakland Catholic Worker community's response when ICE agents appear. For folks who are in the house, the protocol is clear, and ICE agents would need a search warrant to enter.

However, the weekly distribution of food on the corner near the Oakland Catholic Worker House presents a much more vulnerable situation for immigrant families and, as of now, there are no protocols yet established. The OCW Board will continue to research possibilities.

Indivisible East Bay came out about a week ago to assess the situation, although they have not yet committed to being a street-corner presence during the food distribution.

In the meantime, **if you are interested in being an in-person witness**, standing on the street corner while folks collect their much-needed food, please contact: Bob Hernandez at bob.hernandez@mac.com. This is surely one important way we can stand in solidarity with our immigrant sisters and brothers.

Welcome the Stranger (WTS): Jim stated that the Welcome the Stranger sub-committee met with the family we are accompanying -- Carlos, Katherine and Alexia -- and had a wonderful conversation. Committee members have researched priorities identified by the family: finding a doula to accompany Katherine when she gives birth; creating a sample budget to assist with financial concerns; establishing time for a conversation regarding possible GED classes for Carlos; investigating how to navigate the Peralta College system for Katherine to take classes; and brainstorming possibilities for family fun (e.g. an Oakland Zoo pass; Fairyland Pass, etc.).

Once the family's financial picture is a little clearer, the sub-committee will explore how and when to bring fund-raising options to the entire Corpus Christi Community.

Lenten Activities: Lydia and Nancy organized a brief prayer service following our LOF meeting. Prayers were offered for the poor and vulnerable in our community and beyond.

Next week, Corpus Christi is sponsoring an **Ecumenical Liturgy on Wednesday, March 18th from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.** in the sanctuary. All are invited. Please see the attached flyer.

Our next meeting will be **Thursday, April 9th from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. in the Gibson Center.** We hope to see you there!