

Saint Thomas Aquinas Social Justice Committee
Meeting Notes, December 6, 2022 6:00 p.m. (via Zoom)

Present: Chris Rehmann, Francis Today, Marianne Today, Chuck Glatz, Dave Dirks, Felicity Douglas, Paula Friedrich

Action Items Highlighted

Opening Prayer: Provided by Chris.

Minutes of November 1: Approved

Business

Social Justice Grants:

Chris received a note from Darrell Bunting of Obria Medical Clinic thanking the Committee for funding their request for Social Justice Grant support.

Potential Social Justice Speakers:

We discussed some potential speakers that could be offered to Campus Ministry for consideration. The list is as follows:

- Fr. Brian Massingale on race and the Church.
- Fr. James Martin on welcoming LGBTQ Catholics.
- A speaker from Just Faith on racism.
- A speaker from Self-Help International.
- Showing and discussion of “The Letter” (care of creation video from the Vatican).

Chuck will speak with Theresa Crawford from the Student Service and Justice Team to discuss these options, and find her opinion. (In a follow-up note, Chuck did speak with Theresa, and she liked the topics that are suggested. They decided to focus on two events in the Spring Semester. One will be showing “The Letter” and the second will be a Self-Help International presentation. There will need to be further discussion on the timing, venue, and potential speakers for these events. Also, Chuck will contact Nora Tobin, the Executive Director of Self-Help International, to see what options are available for a speaker.)

Environmental Stewardship:

Chuck reported on updating the light bulbs in the rectory. There are approximately 65 light bulbs in the building, and around 12 were changed. The remainder already had a more efficient bulbs of some type.

The Creation Care Team from St. Cecilia and STA are planning an event in February that will involve viewing the movie “The Letter” followed by inviting people to join one of four committees. The focus of the committees will be prayer, education, advocacy, and direct action. These four groups will be asked to brainstorm and plan creation care activities. This viewing of “The Letter” may include college students, as noted above. However, the final decision on

whether to hold a separate viewing of “The Letter” for students will be decided after discussion with the Student Service and Justice Team.

Love Your Neighbor:

No Report.

Next Meeting:

January 3, 2023, 6 p.m. by Zoom

Respectfully submitted by Francis Todey.

Minutes approved: January 3, 2023