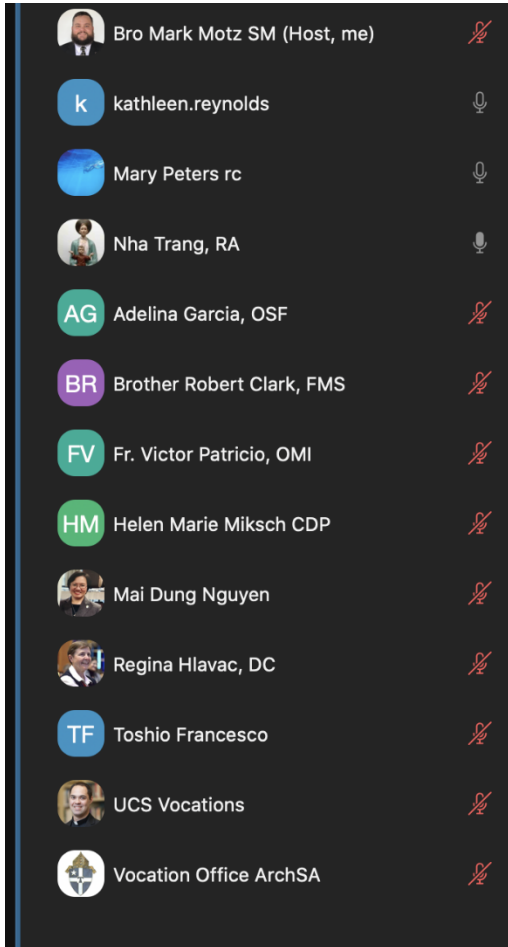


Southwest Member Area Minutes
March 28, 2023

In Attendance:



Prayer led by Bro Mark Motz SM including prayer intentions

Learnings and Main points from Talk it up Tuesday

Questions from the floor:

- We have been in a desert in regards to new vocations for years. Sisters get discouraged and depressed. I see this as a challenge to how we are living and witnessing to others. I do believe we need to be open to where God is calling us as religious. Any thoughts?
 - Share videos of encouragement from senior members and hear their stories of hope
 - NRVC Abundant Hope Prayer
 - “I don’t know how to promote vocations or that’s not my job” “Well how did you discover your vocation?”
 - Joy of vocation directors, share your story, share your joy!
 - All people, whether older sisters or inquirers like to be heard and have someone be present to them.
 - Always share your stories

- What conferences/booths do you attend? How do you hear about them?
 - NCYC
 - SEEK
 - LA RE Congress
 - YOUTH Spectacular - Arch Diocese of SA (1000 Confirmation Students)
 - Power of our presence - welcoming committee as students arrived.
 - Vocation Awareness Program in Dallas
 - Vocation Awareness Retreat in San Antonio
- Do you do come and sees? How do you vet them? Do they stay with you? Live in?
 - Committing to a weekend is intimidating.
 - Guys come to our house for weekend better than week.
 - Zoom and See - now come and see.
 - Friday to Sunday

- Interview first, some vetting at least a phone call before setting them loose on a community.
- Informal visits, Saturday afternoon or evening into Sunday
- A lot of Zoom one on one
- Service Saturdays
- Ages of entrance
 - Changed 50-40
 - 18-40 on paper, 23-35 in reality
 - 18-38
 - 18-40
 - Irregular practice of taking out of high school but case by case
 - Prefer to have BA
 - 18-40
 - Special permissions over 50
- How can campus ministers help vocation ministry?
 - Point people in the right direction
 - Have those spiritual conversations?
 - Once a year have a vocations fair
 - Collaboration - how to be like mentors - how can we walk with those who want to enter religious life.
 - Smiley Friends
- Journeying Together
- Announcements:
 - Fr Robert Murphy - moving to St Louis - Fr Wan will join us.
 - We will need a new Member Area Coordinator. Please be on the lookout for an email and pray about you serving in this capacity.