

The Liberal Catholic Church

Province of the United States

Provincial Assembly

Minutes

17 October 2014

Our Lady Queen of Angels Church, Rio Rancho, New Mexico

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 AM by Regional Bishop Rt. Rev. William S.H. Downey, President *ex officio*. After the opening prayer, roll was taken.

Of the 22 voting members of the Assembly, 21 were present, as follows:

- Parishes and missions: St. Alban's Church, North Hollywood, CA; Our Lady & All Angels, Ojai, CA; St. Raphael Church Center, Berkeley, CA; Church of St. Albert, Greeley, CO; ST. Bonaventure Church Center, Colorado Springs, CO; Nuestra Señora de los Angeles, Hialeah, FL; Church of St. Francis, Villa Park, IL; St. Gabriel & All Angels, Fairfield, IA; and Our Lady, Queen of Angels, Rio Rancho, NM.
- Bishops of the Province: Bp. Downey, the Rt. Rev. Dr. Lloyd Worley, the Rt. Rev. Gaspar Torres.
- The Little Chapter of the Clerical Synod: the Very Rev. Alan Clute, Provost; Rev. Brian Satterlee, Rev. Timothy Donovan, Rev. Ian Carman, and Rev. Steve Arndt, members.
- Board of Trustees: the Very Rev. Canon Milton R. Shaw, Rev. James Voirol, Sr. Kathleen Clute, and Mrs. Melinda Arndt.

Minutes

Minutes from the Provincial Assembly meetings on 14 & 15 October 2011 had previously been distributed. Canon Shaw moved that the Minutes be accepted as distributed; Rev. Timothy Donovan seconded; the motion carried.

Financial Reports

Canon Shaw gave the Treasurer's Report, with details of cash on hand and liabilities for several different Provincial accounts. The Provincial net worth, including Provincial Fund, St. Alban's Press, and the Regional Bishop's Fund is \$775,547. Rev. James McGill moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as given; Rev. James Voirol seconded; the motion carried.

Rev. Timothy Donovan gave the Rogers Cooper Memorial Foundation financial report. The assets of the Foundation include approximately 50 acres surrounding Our Lady & All Angels Church in Ojai, California, with rental properties and church offices. From 9/30/2011 to 9/30/2014, the net increase in RCMF assets was approximately 67%. The Foundation had spent \$146,994 in improvements to the rental properties, and made grants to parishes totalling \$20,000. Rev. Donovan's report was informational only and did not require approval by the Assembly.

Bishop Downey thanked Canon Shaw and Rev. Donovan for their careful stewardship of Provincial assets.

Parish Reports

Each parish and mission in attendance gave a brief report of current status.

Committee Reports

Liberal Catholic Institute of Studies

The Very Rev. Alan Clute, LCIS director, reported that there are 13 students enrolled in LCIS. Presiding Bishop Graham Wale and his wife Kylann typed in many of the older papers so they would be available in the online course format.

Online Outreach

Provincial Secretary Kathleen Clute reported that the Province has a comprehensive website that went live in September 2012; and an active presence on Facebook as of July 2013. The Provincial website includes all features of the original website created by Bishop Worley, as well as many materials both for people looking for general information about the Church and for clergy/members looking for support for services. All issues of *Ubique* have been archived online.

New Business

Board of Trustees Election

Bishop Downey explained that the Board of Trustees has three members whose terms officially are completed — Rev. Brian Satterlee, the Very Rev. Canon Milton Shaw, and Mrs. Kathleen Clute.

There were no nominations before the opening of the Provincial Assembly. Bishop Downey opened the floor to nominations. As there were none, and as all three of the trustees whose terms were expiring were willing to serve on the Board again, Bp. Downey called for a vote. The Assembly unanimously re-elected Rev. Satterlee, Canon Shaw, and Sr. Clute to the Board of Trustees.

Presentation: The State of the Church Worldwide— The Most Rev. Graham Wale, Presiding Bishop

Bishop Wale began with an explanation of how he came to the role of Presiding Bishop, and focussed his remarks on the point that we all work collectively for the benefit of others. He reminded us that the spiritual side cannot be measured. How can we convey what is being accomplished there? Bp Graham also described his joy in participating in LCC services around the world, especially in Africa. He expressed his gratitude that although as Presiding Bishop he mostly hears about the problems in the church worldwide, our Regionary Bishop William is the exception to that!

Bishop Downey thanked Bp Graham very profusely for his remarks, his visit to this Triennial, and his support of the Province of the United States. Bp. Downey also expressed the Province's **pleasure** at being selected to host the Liberal Catholic Church Centennial and the General Episcopal Synod in 2016.

Adjournment

The Provincial Assembly needed to recess for luncheon. By general consent, the time to which to recess was set for Sunday morning, 19 October, following Holy Eucharist. The Assembly recessed at 11:35 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Clute, Secretary