



ZOOM MEETING HELD ON 27th JANUARY 2021 AT 7:30PM

CHAPTER 17 - "Culture - The Power of Measurement" – Harvey Martin

CHAPTER 18 – "Culture - Growing Your Key Cultures" – Charles Pinsent

Contributions

Group 1:

- Strong community spirit by establishing children clubs, Alpha, dancing lessons, Church Doctrine, Choir, Bible Studies, etc. This makes a community strong.
- Ask the Holy Spirit for guidance in prayer.
- Try to engage young people to meet in youth clubs. Keep in contact with the Bishop for help, by having a person of reference in the Diocese.
- Rosary groups (Marian Rosary and St. Joseph's Rosary as it is St. Joseph's year and pray for Parish Priests) for the mission, Pastoral care for young couples, elderly couples, single young people, and older people alone with fun activities but always with a touch of God to learn about Him and love Him.

Group 2:

- We did not expect that the process of renewal would be take as long as seven years.
- We were also surprised that the Bishop needed to be so involved in the process of renewal in a Parish. Our own Bishop is aware of the DR and other Parishes in our Deanery are engaged either in DR or holding Alpha Course. Through the participation of our priests in the meetings of the Deanery, the Bishop has surely heard that the Sacred Heart Church is involved in the missionary renewal with the DR. In any case, Bishops tend not to interfere and they are happy when Parishes make progress and move their programmes forward.



- It is not a big deal to engage one-hundred and fifty people in the programme of renewal if we count on the help of the Holy Spirit and are enthused by our vision.
- Fr Mallon is too specific when it comes to define a strategy; however, in matters of the Spirit, things take place according to divine designs, not to human planning. The experience of Pentecost resulted in the conversion of more than five-thousand people. That was a charismatic experience. How can any one measure how grace is going to work through us?
- However, measurement is important. What we measure is important, too. Fr James has seen that in average, parishes follow a pattern of development that takes a certain amount of years. Even if parishes are different, and the Spirit works generously, the human elements show these patterns.
- It will not be difficult to engage people in the Vision of our Church, but most important is that we have a life of prayer and that we rely on the Holy Spirit.
- Our Church has taken important steps and is moving slowly. We know that the Pandemic has made things more difficult. However, we look at the future with enthusiasm. The key to the future is moving out of our comfort zone and invite people who are not (practicing) Christians.

Group 3:

- What is the Diocesan view of our Parish with regard to DR? Is the Bishop involved? Do other local parishes know that we are involved with DR and are any other local parishes involve, too? (All questions which Fr Julio answered in his group notes)
- Always pray for the Bishop and Priests and for guidance from the Holy Spirit.
- Setting a strategy – using business tools might not always be acceptable to some people but the difference is that in the Church business tools are used with the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
- We should have a dialogue with the Bishop and let him know what we are planning – important to have a good relationship with our Bishop.



- Don't bother the Bishop with problems unless you have a solution for your problems.
- Chapter 18 is perhaps aimed more for the Parish and not for the parishioners.
- Interesting point that from the percentage worked out in DR – out of our parish of approximately 330 parishioners there should be 132 members supporting DR.
- DR recommends putting a feeler out to the parishioners to find out how many people know and support The Sacred Heart Vision. You must directly invite people to talk to us about our Vision. Most people are more interested in knowing about the team and what they are doing instead than wanting to know about the evangelization of the Church.
- To grow our mission, we need young people - to bring joy and enthusiasm.
- Eight years to build a Church based on DR – a long way to go but amazing what Sacred Heart has achieved in less than a year!
- We must be more open to share our faith with others. The attributes of a missionary disciple – beautifully explained.



NEXT MEETING

10th February

7:30 p.m.

Last Meeting on “Beyond the Parish”

Chapter 19: pp. 297 - 312 **“Strategy - Living as a
Missionary Diocese”**

Conclusion: pp. 313 - 321 **“Conclusion: Joining the
Dance”**

Chair Person: **Charles Pinson**

Readers:

Nuala Bamberg

Alice De Lima

Secretary: **Pauline McKenna**