

Naming My Heart's Longing: Gifts and Graces from God

Board of Trustees Winter Meeting Feb 2-3, 2024

Friday Night:

7:30 Gather via Zoom (Mike to offer instrumental music)

Welcome (Kevin and Mike)

Meditation (Kevin)

Introductions (Kathy C)

Opening Prayer (Karen)

In spite of the darkness, we declare our faith and our undeniable hope...This is no empty optimism, for our hope is Gospel-based and influenced by the tremendous good will of sincere and hard-working people the world over. Our guarantee is the certainty of the Gospel of Christ. Working together toward a genuine and realistic Franciscan response to the tensions and the confusion around us, we turn to the "Light of the World," Who alone gives us "living hope."

"We Are Sent: The Franciscan Missionary Vocation in the World Today," 1986, pg. 116

Reading: A reading from the first Book of Kings 3:4-13 (Dianne, Paul)

Solomon went to Gibeon to sacrifice there because that was the most renowned high place. Upon its altar Solomon offered a thousand burnt offerings. In Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream at night. God said, "Ask something of me and I will give it to you." Solomon answered: "You have shown great favor to your servant, my father David, because he behaved faithfully toward you, with justice and an upright heart; and you have continued with great favor toward him, even today, seating a son of his on his throne. O Lord, my God, you have made me, your servant, king to succeed my father, David; but I am a mere youth, not knowing at all how to act. I serve you in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a people so vast that it cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant, therefore, an understanding heart to judge your people and to distinguish right from wrong. For who is able to govern this vast people of yours?"

The Lord was pleased that Solomon made this request. So God said to him, "Because you have asked for this – not for a long life for yourself, nor for riches, nor for the life of your enemies, but for understanding so that you may know what is right – I do as you requested. I give you a heart so wise and understanding that there has never been anyone like you up to now, and after you there will come no one equal to you. In addition, I give you what you have not asked for; such riches and glory that among kings there is not your like."

Reflective Questions: (Terri)

Below are some suggested reflective questions which your small group might consider for reflection. These are suggestions only; each group should feel free to explore in their own way.

- What gift or grace would you seek for yourself?
- What grace is your heart truly longing for and why?
- What gift or grace would you ask for the Mountain and why?

(Mike to take us into and out of break out rooms: 15 minutes)

Return to large group for sharing (Terri)

Petitions (Greg)

Agenda for Saturday (Paul)

Lord's Prayer (Kate)

Saturday:

9:00 Gather via Zoom

Welcome (Paul and Mike)

Meditation (Joe)

Opening Prayer (Lou)

Reading: A Culture of Encounter (Terri)

When leaders in various fields ask me for advice, my response is always the same: dialogue, dialogue, dialogue. The only way for individuals, families, and societies to grow, the only way for the life of peoples to progress, is via the culture of encounter, a culture in which all have something good to give and all can receive something good in return.

Others always have something to give me, if we know how to approach them in a spirit of openness and without prejudice...Today, either we take the risk of dialogue, we risk the culture of encounter, or we all fall; this is the path that will bear fruit.

-Address, Pope Francis, July 27, 2013. Through the Year with Pope Francis – Daily Reflections

Bridging Our Prayer to Agenda (Paul)

9:45 – Back to Basics - what is the relationship between Franciscan Mountain Retreat/Mt. Irenaeus and Holy Name Province – review Venn Diagram document and wagon wheel from fundamentals.

10:00 – 10:45 - Breakout sessions to discuss. What are we understanding about these two documents? Do we agree? What is missing? How would we insert other stakeholders (SBU, US Province) into this?

10:45 – 11:30 – come back in the larger group and share. What can we agree on? Does this provide direction for decision making responsibilities? Is it in alignment with by-laws?

Ten minute break

11:40 – 1:00 significant committee work

- Advancement/Communications (Mountain Day of giving, and potential 40th anniversary celebration)
- Master Planning document from the summer

- Buildings and Grounds – including land update
- Legal council being reestablished
- SBU relationship – Value of the Mountain powerpoint, summary of Feb 2nd meeting.
- Financial reports – YTD review
- Other topics?

1:15-2:00 – Executive Session