

The meeting focused on the Independent Sacramental Movement's (ISM) efforts to support immigrants, particularly through the "Standing with Immigrants" initiative and the relaunch of Convergent Streams magazine. Bishop Greer reported on the successful translation of materials into Spanish and shared that the Stations of the Cross focused on immigrant issues would be used by a parish with 600 families. The Committee discussed strategies for promoting these initiatives, including social media outreach and collaboration with other ISM groups. A significant portion of the meeting

Quick recap

involved a discussion between Tony and other Committee members about the perceived lack of urgency in their efforts, with Bishop Greer emphasizing the need for concrete materials before scheduling future meetings. The conversation ended with a prayer for immigrants and those working to support them.

Summary Zoom Captions and Labor Reform

The meeting began with a technical discussion about enabling and using captions in Zoom, where Tony and Bishop Greer learned how to access and manage captions, including changing language settings for translation. Padre Ricardo shared his experience with using captions to facilitate communication with someone in Pakistan who speaks Urdu, and mentioned receiving a new hard drive that works on both Mac and Windows systems. The conversation ended with Bishop Greer Elect Castro joining and discussing recent events in Argentina,

particularly the approval of a labour reform that negatively impacts both domestic and foreign workers.

Argentine Labor Reforms Discussion

The Committee discussed labor reforms in Argentina, with Padre Ricardo noting similarities to recent developments in the United States. The Committee acknowledged Bishop Greer Ben Williams' absence due to a hospital call but confirmed his previous approval of

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the statement of purpose update. Bishop Greer was asked to send a copy of the updated statement of purpose to the

Committee.

Immigrant Ministry Growth and

Challenges The Committee discussed the distribution of a new statement of purpose and reviewed Bishop Greer's report, which included the translation of "Standing with Immigrants" into Spanish and the creation of Stations of the Cross focused on the plight of immigrants. Bishop Greer shared that Bishop Greer Jim St. George's parish, St. Miriam in Pennsylvania, has over 600 families on the rolls and approximately 160 people attending church regularly, which is above the national average of 10% participation. The group acknowledged the decline in church membership and participation across mainstream denominations in the United States.

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Immigrant Series and Magazine Plans Bishop Greer discussed plans for a new series on immigrants, tentatively scheduled for April or May, and mentioned the success of the Standing with Immigrants Lenten Liturgy. Padre Ricardo and Bishop Greer agreed to

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collaborate on regular articles for Convergent Streams with a deadline in the first week of each quarter. Padre Ricardo expressed gratitude for the return of the magazine and suggested developing a strategy to promote both the magazine and the Standing with Immigrants initiative across the ISM jurisdiction.

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an magazine,

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Promoting Convergent Streams Online

Bishop Greer shared updates on promoting the Convergent Streams magazine through Facebook groups, including "Not All Catholics Are Roman" and "Independent Catholics," which have a combined membership of about

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6,000 worldwide. Padre Ricardo mentioned resuming work Deleted: Fr. on the website and adding content to the blog to spread information to Committee members. Tony requested links Deleted: committee to join the Facebook groups, and Padre Ricardo agreed to Deleted: Deleted: LindaFr. send them. Bishop Greer and Padre Ricardo discussed Deleted: Bishop the blog's current setup, with Padre Ricardo being the only Deleted: Fr. person who can post directly, and they agreed to explore Deleted: Fr. options for allowing others to post directly in the future.

Bishop Greer's Blog Strategy Discussion

The group discussed the external blog that Bishop Greer Deleted: Deleted: Bishop had been posting to, which would soon be publicly available with links. Tony suggested reaching out to the Independent Sacramental Movement as potential allies for the project, which Padre Ricardo agreed was part of their Deleted: Fr. strategy. They discussed the importance of making a direct call to people to discuss the issue, potentially through a Facebook page or a Zoom call. Tony emphasized the urgency of the situation, but Padre

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Ricardo and others agreed to focus on Bishop Greer's current efforts to post announcements and build momentum for the project.

Urgency in Social Justice Efforts

Bishop Greer expressed a sense of “real reality” regarding the Committee's outreach and goals, emphasizing the need to continue fighting despite challenges. The Committee criticized Tony for a perceived pattern of walking away from organizations when they don't meet his standards, while Tony maintained that the work should continue regardless of his involvement. Bishop Greer highlighted OCCI's administration's willingness to take drastic measures and the impact of boycotts on corporations, while also addressing a personal experience of racial discrimination. The group discussed the importance of balancing efforts with realistic outcomes, with Bishop Greer noting their extensive work on the issue.

Strategic Planning for Progressive Agenda The Committee discussed moving forward with a progressive agenda and addressed concerns about the urgency of their actions. Bishop Greer and Bishop Elect Castro emphasized the importance of strategic planning and applying it within their jurisdictions, parishes, and centers of accompaniment. They highlighted the need to address both material and spiritual needs of individuals, while also acknowledging the different challenges faced in various regions. The discussion touched on the role of

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Deleted: **Project Progress and Resource Challenges** The meeting focused on addressing the lack of progress on certain tasks, including the creation of videos to humanize people in the streets and the development of working models for outreach efforts. Linda explained her personal challenges, including health issues and financial concerns, which have impacted her ability to dedicate time to the project. Bishop Greer emphasized the importance of urgency in pushing the project forward, but Fr. Castro and others argued that the sense of urgency was misplaced and that the group was already committed to the cause. The discussion highlighted the need for more brains on board to support the initiative, with a focus on bringing people together to discuss the issues at hand.

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Committee members and the importance of identifying talents and assigning roles effectively.

committee

Social Issues and Clergy Engagement

The meeting focused on discussing the urgency of addressing various social and political issues, including immigration, homelessness, and healthcare access.

Bishop Greer emphasized the importance of having concrete materials to present to the clergy before scheduling a meeting, as they need to understand the significance of these issues. The Committee agreed to reconvene in March to continue discussions and hear updates on activities in Argentina and the Brown Beret's efforts. The conversation ended with a prayer offered by Bishop Greer for strength and guidance in their work.

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