

**Congregation of the Passion, Holy Cross Province**  
**Preaching Working Group**  
**Minutes for ZOOM Meeting • November 30, 2018**

The Preaching Working Group is currently comprised of eleven people:

Patrick Brennan <patriciocp@aol.com>, Richard Burke <RBurke@cpprov.org>, Jack Conley <jconley@passionist.org>, Michael Cunningham <mcunningham@materdolorosa.org>, Enno Dango <ennnodango@yahoo.com>, Michael Higgins <mhiggins@materdolorosa.org>, Ann Kemp <akemp@bdrconsultants.com>, Angela Kwasinski <akwasinski@passionistmonastery.org>, Terri Segura <terri.segura@gmail.com>, Priya Tharayil <trosep84@yahoo.com>, Jonathan Vaca <sstrdx15@gmail.com>

Pat Brennan, Mike Higgins, and Priya Tharayil were not able to participate in the November meeting, but Mike Cunningham arranged to record the ZOOM session.

The meeting began in prayer and with a warm welcome to Jonathan Vaca. Jack briefly summarized the evolution of the visioning process beginning with the June 2018 Province Assembly, Joe Moons' invitation letter to the five working groups, and a brief review of the October 29, 2018 Preaching Working Group Meeting.

The conversation included: Preaching is to be grounded in Sacred Scripture, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit; the group preferred to expand the definition of the verb "to preach" beyond the traditional expression of a religious sermon in a church before an assembly. Also, preaching must be accessible and practical, and the influence, inspiration, or impact is a mutual experience (preacher and congregation). (For more detail please see Mike Cunningham's draft report emailed November 1, 2018.)

AK: justice and love inextricably bound  
ALK: "inner self" means life itself  
TS: quiet and peace beyond "preaching" context  
ED: journey to greater consistency  
MC: latency, close gap between awareness and reflection  
JV: transformation over comprehension  
ALK: shake people up  
ED: anonymity, relevance  
TS: know congregation  
MC: maintenance to mission  
AK: reluctance to be "out there" reinforced irrelevancy  
ALK: actions louder than words  
MC: aging often means less risk, church risk-averse as well  
ALK: need to surprise congregation  
JV: building long-term relationship with priests, simplicity, reach out  
TS: church reform insists upon going to "root cause" as corporations analyze  
MC: not band-aid or circling wagons  
ED: though not spectacular/dramatic, retreat centers are healing, listening ear  
ALK: maybe not large masses but one-to-one  
MC: need to be bold

Jack reminded the group of Ann Kemp's emailed directive several weeks ago: 1) What **bold** and **prophetic ideas** are emerging in the area of the (preaching) group? What **key initiatives** and **action plans** is the group considering that would enable the ideas? Who is **responsible** and a **timeline** for the next steps.

Jack and Mike Cunningham will correspond with the group re: the early January date for the next ZOOM meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Jack Conley, CP*