

St. Paul of the Cross Passionist Retreat and Conference Center



April 10, 2019

To: Visioning Commission

From: Board of Directors, St. Paul of the Cross Passionist Retreat and Conference Center, Detroit

The comments and questions listed below are the result of a Visioning discussion held at our Board meeting on April 8, 2018. The comments and questions are not the consensus of our entire group. They come from individuals discussing in small groups. They are in response to two questions, and are grouped into topics according to the Working Groups.

We join our prayers with yours for a successful Chapter in June.

Question # 1

“What decisions made through the visioning process from Chapter forward, would fill you with hope and renewed energy for 2023 chapter?”

Community

More structured interaction between lay and vowed as relates to community, outreach, formation

The dynamic and honest reflection and dialogue (individually and collectively) lays scaffolding for on-going movement .

Reconcile-celebrate – vision

Create a vision that is realistic and doable: Look back to say that this happened and that did not.

Strategic plan; framework

Singular most important thing. Focus. You can't do it all.

Vote for a Provincial leader who leads; like a CEO owns corporate life goals , culture
A good Passionist presence of vowed and lay partners

Outreach

Visibility goes with the above – technology and more directed outreach
Open the doors to outside world, cultures, neighbors, etc.
Extend invitation to others who may not appear to have a need for prayer, retreats, etc.
Follow up with retreatants – extend community, shared prayer, outreach, etc.
Reach out to youth – “Kids 4 Earth”, etc.; connect to their needs
Encourage concern for the environment; possible environmental weekends for young adults, NONEs, etc.

Collaboration

Laity formation – investment in charism and preaching formation
Maintain forward movement, do not disband committees but re-form to have accountability
Alternative forms of community and collaborating with the non-vowed
Coordinated marketing between retreat centers

Preaching

Allow us to continue with the mission of the retreat centers

Charism

Awareness of Passionists as a brand, developed brand awareness, more intentionality

Question #2

“What can St. Paul of the Cross do to advance the visioning process?”

Community

Planning for a new model of community
More open community and shared spirituality
Determine time tables and accountabilities

Outreach

Continue investing time and resources into parish missions (vowed and non-vowed partnering)
Involve our retreatants in outreach – consider the neighborhood; how to connect
Retreat partners – to share with during retreats or afterwards in email, etc.
Good outreach in the local circles – Detroit
Outreach to youth – possible electronic connections
How to serve the community at large – the Detroit area specifically
Retreat center having a role in shaping lay partners and those involved in ministry
How does the retreat center give back to the community and get something back from the community?

Collaboration

Continue to talk about the process; give feedback; connect to representatives

Opportunities for board interactions and dialogue

Communication with owners : face to face zoom

Clear communication – communication loop

A good functioning board

Preaching

Do what we do well and communicate this to the outside

Embracing the uniqueness of the retreat center here in Detroit