**CSL COUNCIL MEETING**

Thursday February 13, 2025

Present: Abbess Martha, Brother Raymond, Sister Genevieve Lynn, Brother Florian, Brother William Marion, Sister Gianna

Guests: Brother David, Sister Clare

Opening Prayer: Abbess Martha

Finance Report: The report has been delayed due to technical problems; Sister Mary Magdalene will send out later. Abbess Martha proposed a donation of $500 to be sent to the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles for the purpose of wildfire relief. She explained that sending it to them will allow for optimal coordination of resources. Motion by Abbess Martha, seconded by Brother William Marion, passed unanimously.

2025 Budget: Approval tabled at this time.

Communications/Website: Three projects are underway for the Opus Dei website (simplification of the rubrics, editing text descriptions to reflect current practices, and corrections to the landing page). The trifold brochure has been approved. Sister Genevieve Lynn asked about corrections to mistakes in the Opus Dei. Abbess explained that the best response to anyone finding these is to submit to the comments on the website; Brother David aggregates these and then sends them to the webmaster.

Formation: Sr. Genevieve Lynn reported that Brother William Marion and Sister Clare have become assistants for formation. Looking at getting annually professed projects going, new members, and convocation presentations of annual professions projects. This July, Brother John David will present.

Gathering night is going well so far, and this will be publicized in the next newsletter. Task groups are working on various projects. Brother William Marion and Sister Genevieve Lynn have completed the librarian project, and the next task group is working on online on-demand classes. These will be available on a platform that Sister Julian and Brother Ronan are investigating. The exact platform is still to be determined. Brother Ronan is attempting to obtain a grant to help in paying for it. The formation committee will be asking for help with the many rituales that will occur at July convocation, while not overloading the schedule. A discussion of satisfying Safe Church requirements for non-US community members concluded that Sister Genevieve Lynn should discuss this with Bishop Scarfe. The Lenten study will begin March 9, with 2 sessions each week (4 and 6 pm CST). These will be held weekly through Palm Sunday; if needed, sessions may take place the week after Easter.

Porter’s Report/Inquires: Abbess Martha reported that there are still five applicants, two with complete files, and interviews will be scheduled in March. Other applicants have missing items and have been updated on what is needed. One applicant is international.

Worship/Convocation: Abbess Martha has spoken with Brother Anskar, who has agreed to assist once more, helping Sister Madeleine Sophie.

January Minutes: Approved (motion by Sister Gianna, seconded by Sister Genevieve Lynn, passed unanimously)

Old Business: Habits are being ordered and invoiced. It is an easy process if done as intended. There were questions about which fabric to order; wool blend is recommended, as it wears better and lasts longer.

New Business: Brother David has been asked to lead the work group searching for a new Bishop Visitor. A job description will be created and submitted to pertinent websites, and Bishop Scarfe will be assisting; Brother David will receive the inquiries. There was a discussion of the interview process. Ideally, a candidate will be presented to Chapter in September. Abbess Martha noted that we need to have a Bishop Visitor by the end of the year. This work group will need volunteers but is a short term commitment.

Open session ended and guests were asked to leave.

Closed session ended.

Next meeting will be Thursday March 13, 5:00 pm central time

Closing Prayer: Sister Genevieve Lynn

The meeting ended at 6:04 pm CST

Respectfully submitted,

Sister Gianna, n/OSB