

St. Perpetua Social Justice Committee Meeting

February 20, 2020

Members present: Joan Liston, Mary Terjeson, Sr. Peggy Dwyer, DeeDee Hansen, Pat Snyder, Ramona Davis, Laura Monin, Buzz Sherwood, Christoph Nauer, Marj Ho

Christoph opened with a prayer.

Letter to the Bishops on Immigration: We got fewer signatures on this letter than we did on the letter on gun violence, but still got about 130 this time. Buzz will send the letter by registered mail, receipt requested, to Archbishop Jose Gomez and the US Council of Catholic Bishops, the National Catholic Reporter, Commonweal and the Catholic Voice. We anticipate that the Voice will not print it, but send it in hope, anyway.

Also, Christoph will post this letter and the one on gun violence on the church website.

Buzz handed out a flyer from the School of the Americas Watch for a Training Day and Action Convergence in Tucson, Arizona. The dates for this are March 27 – 29.

Schools and Communities First Petition: Pat explained that we will need several people to cover the tables at each mass to make sure that people signing the petition fill it out correctly. If they don't, their signatures will not be counted. 997,000 valid signatures are required to get the measure on the ballot. 1,000,000 have already been collected, but many more are needed to cover those that will be eliminated.

3/7 5:00 Pat, Buzz, Peggy

3/8 8:00 Peggy, Mary T, Buzz

9:30 Joan, Marj, Ramona

11:30 Pat, DeeDee, Mary T.

Pat passed out a draft of the announcement to go on the back of the bulletin on March 1. It includes the most important information about this proposed amendment to Prop. 13, a reference to Catholic Social Teaching and an invitation to sign the petition on March 7 and 8. After some discussion and amendment, the final wording was agreed upon. Pat will turn it in for inclusion in the bulletin.

Pat also passed out a draft of the mass announcement, to be made by members of the committee at each mass on March 7 and 8. With minor amendments, the final wording for this was agreed upon.

Pat handed out copies of the petition and "what to know" sheets, and went over how the petitions must be filled out e.g., blue or black ink, legible writing, full street address, etc. We kept the "what to know" sheets and Pat collected most of the petition forms. Some members took petition forms so that they could collect signatures on their own; Pat instructed them on how to carefully fill out the "circulator

declaration” on the bottom of the form. Pat will fill out these declarations on all the forms that will be used on March 7 and 8. After the last mass on March 8, Pat will deliver the forms right away as the deadline for collecting signatures is March 18.

Pat then handed out a sheet of important points about the proposed measure and offered copies of the information packets that she handed out last month. These will help us to answer questions that people may have as they consider the petition. There will also be informational handouts on the tables. All this information will also be posted on the website by Christoph. Pat emphasized that this amendment will only affect commercial and industrial property – no residential property of any kind – and will only affect commercial property worth over \$3,000,000.

The League of Women Voters and the California Alliance of Retired Americans are putting huge effort into supporting this measure.

Many thanks to Pat for all her hard work on this matter.

The next meeting will be on March 12. Note the change of date.