

## Pilgrimages for Vocations CONSTITUTION

To Our Lady of Guadalupe, our Patroness and Protectress, Virgin of the Americas, be honor forever.  
Amen

To San Francisco de Asis, the Pilgrim of Peace be honor forever. Amen

### Article I Mission and Goals

- A. The Archdiocesan Pilgrimages for Vocations (APV) is a non-profit organization operating under the auspices of the Archdiocese of Santa Fe.
- B. The Archbishop of Santa Fe sends Pilgrims for Vocations to make present in our time and place the saving work of Jesus Christ by organizing and carrying out pilgrimages in support of all Christian vocations, and by promoting other service ministries.
- C. In response to this mission, Archdiocesan Pilgrimages for Vocations aims:
  - 1) to promote devotion to Mary, our mother, and to San Francisco de Asis, the Pilgrim of Peace,
  - 2) to promote prayer for a generous response to all the Christian vocations sent by the Lord, including priesthood, diaconate, religious life, marriage and all the ministries of the Church,
  - 3) to be a support group for parish priests, religious and all parish ministers,
  - 4) to engage in works of community service, and
  - 5) to encourage others to work in service ministries.

### Article II Membership

- A. All Christians of good character who support the goals of Archdiocesan Pilgrimages for Vocations are eligible for membership.
- B. There shall be two types of membership:
  - 1) Peregrinos: men and boys who walk on Pilgrimage and support the Pilgrimages,
  - 2) Guadalupanas: women and girls who walk on pilgrimage and support the Pilgrimages.

Peregrinos and Guadalupanas shall meet the following age limit. If there will be a sponsoring adult, that adult must be 18 years of age or older, that applies to both May and June Pilgrimage.

- 1. May Pilgrimage –Must be 10 years of age by day of Pilgrimage. Between ages 10-18, registrant must have a sponsoring adult, who will walk with them.
- 2. June Pilgrimage-Must be 13 years of age by day of Pilgrimage.  
All new pilgrims must have a sponsor.  
Between ages 13-18 registrant must have a sponsoring adult.

A sponsor is someone who has walked in Pilgrimage for Vocations before, belongs to a local group and who will provide oversight and support for the new pilgrim during pilgrimage.

C. Annual Registration

- 1) Eligible persons become members only when they register each year.
- 2) The period of annual registration shall be through December 12. NO registrations SHALL BE ACCEPTED AFTER DECEMBER 12.
- 2) The non-refundable registration fee shall be due and payable to the local leader at the time of registration.
- 3) Pilgrimage lanyards and shells are distributed to the local area leader to be presented to registered members prior to the May Pilgrimage. New June Pilgrims receive a Pilgrimage lanyard from the local leader, however, will receive the Pilgrimage shell during the Friday Night ritual of the week of Pilgrimage.
- 4) Steering Committee, the annual registration fee shall be \$20 for the May Pilgrimage and \$40 for the June Pilgrimage. For both the May and June Pilgrimage, the registration fee will be waived for both Clergy and Religious. If a person is unable to pay the registration fee, the local area leader and/or the Overall Spiritual Director should be contacted.

D. Membership Standing

- 1) Members shall belong to a local group.
- 2) Members shall be involved in the local groups activities throughout the year. This means regular attendance at meetings, where reflection on the theme for the year and prayer for vocations will be taking place.
- 3) Members will carry out the mission to pray and sacrifice for vocations.

Article III Steering Committee

A. Purpose

The Steering Committee (SC) is an advisory committee to the Overall Spiritual Director and Overall Rector. The Steering Committee shall act as the central coordinating body for both the May and June Pilgrimages. The steering Committee is the avenue of communications between pilgrimage and local areas.

B. Membership

- 1) The Overall Spiritual Director of the Steering Committee is appointed by the Archbishop of Santa Fe.
- 2) The Overall Rector is appointed by the Overall Spiritual Director.
- 3) Officers of the local groups shall be members of the Steering Committee
- 4) All past Rectors/Rectoras and past Spiritual Directors are invited to be life members of the Steering Committee
- 5) The Spiritual Director may appoint other members of the Archdiocesan Pilgrimages for Vocations to the Steering Committee.

C. Officers

- 1) The chief officer shall be the Overall Spiritual Director, appointed by the Archbishop of Santa Fe. The Overall Spiritual Director shall;
  - a) be the principal liaison between the Pilgrimages and the Archdiocesan Offices,

- b) chair the meetings of the Steering Committee
- c) appoint subcommittees for special functions, and appoint chairs for the subcommittees,
- d) appoint the other officers of the Steering Committee, and assign them their duties; and
- e) appoint Spiritual Directors and Rectors/as to the several pilgrimage routes.

#### D. Functions

The Archdiocesan Pilgrimages for Vocations shall

- 1) prepare and distribute membership application forms,
- 2) receive and register applicants
- 3) accept and deposit registration fees,
- 4) prepare and distribute the Pilgrim's Guide
- 5) plan and carry out a retreat in preparation for the June Chimayo Pilgrimage
- 6) establish and conduct the following: Formation Session, Day of Recollection, New Guadalupana's and Peregrino's Orientation, Leadership Retreat, Steering Committee Meetings, Evaluation Meeting
- 7) plans Liturgies for May and June Closing Masses
- 8) review and revise Constitution and Handbooks,
- 9) take action for the good of the Pilgrimage.

#### E. Meetings

- 1) Meetings of the Steering Committee shall be held regularly at designated times.
- 2) Each of the local groups shall be represented at all meetings of the Steering Committee.
- 3) The Spiritual Director of the Archdiocesan Pilgrimages for Vocations (or the Director's delegate) shall preside at all meetings.
- 4) Decisions of the Steering Committee shall be made by consensus of those in attendance.
- 5) Final decisions are made by the Overall Spiritual Director.

#### F. Finances

- 1) The Steering Committee shall establish fiscal policies and procedures.
- 2) The fiscal year for the Archdiocesan Pilgrimages for Vocations shall extend from August 1 through July 31.

### Article IV Local Groups

Each participant in the Pilgrimages shall belong to a local organization.

#### Introduction

The concept of leadership is very crucial to the survival of the Pilgrimages for Vocations. Local leadership should act as the principal shepherd of a structured group within a community of faith participating in the affairs of the various established routes throughout the formation of pilgrimage. Generally, a local leader will provide the basis for perpetual involvement by serving their local Church in religious and traditional functions.

## Objective

The specific roles of a local leader is to (1) identify the needs of the local community; (2) determine the various aspects of preparing and organizing a local group; (3) structure and conduct local group meetings; (4) coordinate the local area with its associated pilgrimage route; (5) communicate between local area leaders and pilgrimage leadership.

## Participation

### A. Officers

- 1) Each local group shall elect officers annually and should follow parliamentary procedure.
- 2) Each officer, together with the appointed leadership for the pilgrimage (Spiritual Director, Rector(a)) shall coordinate and plan for the pilgrimage in its associated route.
- 3) All local leaders and elected officers shall be participants of the Steering Committee and Archdiocesan Pilgrimages for Vocations, and shall attend all scheduled meetings of the Steering Committee to represent and convey the interests of the local area group(s) in the overall general planning.

### B. Functions

- 1) The local leaders shall serve in planning and carrying out the preparatory activities, including fundraisers, required practice walks and retreats.
- 2) Each local group, under the direction of the local leaders, shall follow the directives of the Pilgrimage Handbook/ Constitution and any action taken by the Steering Committee.
- 3) The local leaders shall encourage community service and parish support activities.
- 4) The local leader shall schedule and conduct regular meetings to convey the action taken by the Steering Committee or information provided by the Overall Spiritual Director.
- 5) The local leader shall distribute, receive and processes May and June pilgrimage applications.

## Article V Amendments

- A. This Constitution may be amended by a vote of the membership of the Steering Committee of Archdiocesan Pilgrimages for Vocations, with the approval of the Overall Spiritual Director.
- B. Any members of the Steering Committee may propose an amendment.
- C. A proposed amendment shall be presented as new business at the regular Steering Committee meeting immediately preceding the meeting in which the decision will be made on the proposed amendment.

Amended on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ in the year \_\_\_\_\_  
at \_\_\_\_\_.