

Exploring A New Connection with Loretto

Proposal

Realizing that

- The spirit and values of Loretto extend beyond the rolls of membership,
- Loretto has a mission to extend the spirit and values into the future regardless of the number of vowed members or co-members at any one time, and
- Loretto has a circle of friends and associates who would like to formalize a non- membership relationship,

we believe it is timely to explore a way of connecting to Loretto without the commitment of membership but with a structure for being involved with Loretto.

A *possible* name is Loretto Circle.

Background Rationale

Loretto Volunteers develop a close relationship with the ideals of Loretto, as well as with many Loretto members. Although both the Volunteer Coordinator and Loretto members stay in touch with many former volunteers, it would be helpful for them to have a more formal Loretto circle that would broaden their contact with Loretto, as well as with one another.

Over the years, Loretto high school alums, as well as Claudia Calzetta's students who have gone to the Motherhouse for service trips, have also expressed such an interest. Loretto friends who receive mailings, come to some events, support Loretto positions in various ways, and, in some cases, contribute financially are valuable to Loretto. Many of them have considered Co-membership but have personal reasons that prevent them from making such a significant commitment. Some of them would appreciate having a stated connection such as the Loretto Circle.

Implementation

A group of Loretto members, including the Co-membership Coordinator and the Volunteer Coordinator, would develop a description and an invitation to Loretto Circle.

This Circle might include short-term service projects, retreats, supporting committee work, finding ways to financially support specific projects, and simply sharing with one another the influence of Loretto in their everyday lives. The Circle would evolve from the wishes of those who become part of it, and will be evaluated at Assembly 2012.

Submitted by

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June 26, 2009 — There were two abstentions, one no vote and the remainder of the members present voted yes. Proposal approved.