

Hmong American National Catholic Association (HANCA) Leadership Training June 2016

By Long Her, HANCA Youth Ministry Chair



Pictured: Rich Harter (left) presenting during the HANCA adult group discussion session at the Archdiocese of Milwaukee

On June 24-26, Hmong Catholic adult, young adult, and youth leaders from across the United States convened at St. Bernard Church in Appleton, Wisconsin to partake in the annual Hmong American National Catholic Association (HANCA) leadership training. The 135 participants traveled from as far west as Fresno, California and as far east as Charlotte, North Carolina to join the event. Centered on Revelations 21:5 “Behold, I am



Pictured: Julianne Stanz presenting during the HANCA adult group discussion session at the Diocese of Green Bay

making all things new”, the adult training focused on a deeper understanding of the New Evangelization and the various way to implement it, while youth and young adult tracts honed in on identifying obstacles and solutions to respective group challenges.



Pictured: Ann Lankford (left) presenting during the HANCA adult group discussion session at the Diocese of La Crosse

Presenters for Adult tracts included Rich Harter, Director of the John Paul II Center for the New Evangelization for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee; Ann Lankford, Director of the Office for Catechesis and Evangelization of Diocese of La Crosse; and Julianne Stanz, Director of New Evangelization of Diocese of Green Bay. New Evangelization workshop topics included: Fostering a

Culture of Missionary Discipleship, Key Components of Being Spirit-filled Evangelizers, and Practical Strategies for Making and Duplicating Disciples.

A special update was provided by Xia Vue Yang, of Hmong Catholic Ministry Center in America, on the beatification process of Hmong catechist Paul Xiong (Thoj Xyooj) and 16 other martyrs of Laos. Paul Xiong will be the first Hmong person beatified by the Church. The Beatification is set for December 10 and 11, 2016 in Vientiane, Laos. A thanksgiving Mass for the martyrs will be celebrated on June 17, 2017 at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows in Belleville, Illinois.

Presenters for Youth and Young Adult tracts included Long Her, HANCA Youth Ministry Chair, and Shileng Yang, former HANCA Youth President and Director of Ministry Operations at Saint Paul University Center at University of Wisconsin, Madison. In addition to leadership training, planning for youth tracts at the HANCA Conference 2017 in St. Paul, MN was initiated.