

Since spring 2018, the Catholic Diocese of Oslo (CDO) has received a few inquiries from members of St. Ansgar parish. The Inquirers have expressed concern regarding management, and the cooperative climate within the parish.

In December 2018, the bishop appointed a group to assist the parish and its administrator, p. Tien, and to seek a solution to the situation. The parish was informed of this on December 21, 2018, and the faithful were encouraged to contact the group with any information they might have, prior to the group visiting the parish in January. Psychologist Huan Nguyen and chancellor Anne-Mette Ringdal visited the parish on January 7-8, 2019. They spoke to the priests, employees, the parish council chairperson, the parish council, and many others from the parish.

The situation was surveyed, and the group gave the bishop and p. Tien recommendations as to what could be done to improve relations in the parish. Since then, we have supported p. Tien in implementing the recommendations. We have also waited for parish council elections to be held, and for the new council to be in place. The council must be a support for p. Tien and the parish moving forward.

Huan Nguyen and Anne-Mette Ringdal again visited the parish on March 21-22. One reason for the visit was to inform the new parish council about the recommendations, and to discuss how they might be implemented. We also had meetings with the priests and the employees in the parish office.

The recommendations from the group were as follows:

- A counting committee should be appointed for the parish election. The committee must be neutral, and it should include a priest. The parish must be informed of who is in the committee.
- The parish administrator should take the initiative to involve parish members in projects where different groups may work together.
- The priests should be particularly attentive towards parish members who have been especially affected by the parish turmoil.
- Stella Maris. The CDO, which owns the property, will take the initiative to create a board of management for the property, consisting of representatives from the CDO and the parish.
- The parish needs written routines for the handling of personal information, confidentiality and financial management. The CDO can assist with describing routines, and training employees and volunteers.

We regard our work as finished, and would like to impart our best wishes for the parish. We are grateful for all the friendliness and commitment we were met with, and especially for being allowed to take part in the Thursday-lunch on March 21, where we met many of you.