



From: Fr Michael McCulken
To: PO1(FRTBETZ)
Date: Tuesday, January 2, 1996 4:23 pm
Subject: Fr. Edward Avery -Reply

Tom, Thanks for the update. I will let Bill know the information, he is away this week. Glad to hear it went so well.
Mike

>>> Fr. Thomas Betz 1/2/96, 04:17pm >>>
Mike,

I met with Fr. Avery at Nazareth Hospital today. He mentioned to me that he is meeting with Bill Lynn on January 8 so I wanted to update you on our conversation, just in case it has relevance to Bill's meeting with him.

Fr. Avery could not be more cooperative with me or more eager to help. I mentioned to him on the phone that Bill Lynn wanted him to focus on hospital ministry and not on ministry to the Hmong people. I told him that the source of the concern was his generosity. Everyone here is aware that he would want to do whatever I asked, so that there was concern that he could be overextended and overwhelmed. He frankly acknowledged his tendency to overwork and to take on so much that he cannot do it all. He agreed that he cannot continue involvement with the Hmong in light of his commitment to hospital ministry.

Just as I hoped, he was eager to help me to gather the Hmong people for a Mass so that I can meet them. He told me that he will tell them that I will be working with them from now on because he is so busy. (In fact he has not done much with them in a pastoral way for a long time). In the future he will cooperate with me to help me to have maximum access to the community.

There are two cultural celebrations, one in May, the other in November which he hosts each year wherever he is. He will continue to host these events and I will be invited to be present. Of course, he still has many Hmong friends and as well as his adopted children and to some extent I imagine he will be involved with them.

From my perspective our meeting went well. I achieved my objectives of securing his help in gathering the Hmong Catholics and his agreement to relinquish the responsibility for their pastoral care.

Thank you to you and Bill for your help.

Tom

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