

Kino Institute: A New Venture

I. History of Events

Bishop McCarthy showed interest in an Academy of Religion as soon as he was appointed the first bishop of Phoenix, AZ in 1969.

Conversation about the actual establishment of an Academy by the Carmelites began in 1972. Frs. Ernest Larkin and Leo McCarthy hoped that the Province would establish a permanent foundation in the Diocese. A permanent establishment was encouraged by the Provincial House, and the Academy was an opportunity to do so.

Bishop McCarthy asked Fr. Ernest if the Carmelites would be interested in the Academy, and the answer was affirmative. It was with the Academy in mind that Frs. Ernest and Leo began the preliminary work of seeking a house to purchase. "It was hoped that we would be able to find a facility that was similar to the Casa Santa Cruz¹ on North 7th Avenue. We were assisted by a local realtor, who showed us several properties. Our guideline was simply that we were to find something in the central area of Phoenix and not in excess of \$70,000, which was the figure orally granted by the Provincial House."² The House would serve as a pluriform "Apostolic House" in the sense that it was anticipated that Fr. Romaeus William O'Brien and Fr. Stephen Weil would also live there, although they would not be associated with the Academy.

Later the idea of the Carmelites staffing a parish was proposed to the Bishop. An existing facility rather than a new parish

was suggested by several people, including the Bishop. He mentioned the great opportunity that an existing parish would have over a new parish, as far as classrooms, office and living accommodations, are concerned, for housing the Academy. A new parish would also be less accessible, on the outskirts of Phoenix at best.

After several existing parishes were considered, the Carmelites were offered the parish of Saint Agnes. At the time, it offered everything that all parties deemed necessary to house the Academy.

Frs. Ernest, Romaeus and Leo were also asked by the Provincial House for suggestions as to other Carmelites who might be interested in staffing the parish and, also, teaching adult religious education in the Academy.

Richard Regan, a permanent deacon in the Diocese of Phoenix, was hired as Associate Director of the Academy, and is now the Administrator of Kino Institute.

This is obviously an oversimplification of several conversations and obvious difficulties. It does indicate, however, that Kino Institute was first in mind and execution in planning for a permanent foundation in Phoenix. Only after the difficulty of finding and financing a house was made apparent did the Bishop accept the Provincial's offer of staffing a parish which would serve as a base for Kino Institute and the necessary support for its operation.

Some significant dates about the foundation of Kino Institute:

- Jan. 14, 1972. Frs. Ernest Larkin and Leo McCarthy met with Bishop McCarthy about the future of the Carmelites in Phoenix.
- Jan. 24, 1972. Frs. Ernest Larkin, Stephen Weil and Leo McCarthy discussed their future in the Diocese, etc., at a “house meeting.”
- Jan. 28, 1972. Frs. Ernest Larkin and Leo McCarthy spoke with a local pastor, in confidence, about our future.
- Feb. 3, 1972. Fr. Leo McCarthy met with Bishop McCarthy concerning accreditation.³
- Feb. 22, 1972. Fr. Leo McCarthy met with Dean Henry Bruinsma at the College of Fine Arts, Arizona State University.⁴
- Feb. 24, 1972. Frs. Ernest Larkin and Leo McCarthy met with Bishop McCarthy.
- Mar. 3, 1972. Preliminary letter sent around the country seeking information about adult education in those areas.⁵
- Mar. 6, 1972. Frs. Malachy Smith and Ernest Larkin met with Bishop McCarthy.
- Mar. 7, 1972. Meeting of the Diocesan Consultors of Phoenix. Following publicized:
 “The Bishop presented the request of the Carmelite Fathers for permanent residence in the Diocese. This would mean that they would accept a parish and have projected plans of establishing an academy of religious studies within the Diocese. The discussion that followed acknowledged the fine work that the four Carmelites⁶ are already doing in the Diocese and enthusiastically supported the Carmelites having a permanent residence in the Diocese.
 Father Hurtado moved: that the Carmelite Fathers be invited to accept a parish and to develop their ideas of an academy to serve the Diocese. This was seconded by Father McGovern and unanimously approved by the vote of all present.”
- Apr. 5, 1972. “Preliminary Proposal of an Academy of Religion” presented to Bishop McCarthy.
- Apr. 21, 1972. Fr. Leo McCarthy met with Bishop McCarthy and Br. James Dorson, C.S.C., concerning possible affiliation with the University of Notre Dame.⁷
- Apr. 25, 1972. Meeting of the Senate of Priests of the Diocese of Phoenix. Following publicized: “He (Bishop McCarthy) accepted the Resolution of the Consultors that the Carmelite Fathers be invited to accept a parish and to develop an Academy of Religion in the Diocese.”
- Apr. 25, 1972. Fr. Leo McCarthy and Dick Regan met again with Br. James Dorson, C.S.C.

- May, 1972. *Alive* magazine announces the establishment of an Academy of Religion.
- May 16, 1972. Dick Regan and Fr. Leo McCarthy consult again with Br. Dorson, C.S.C.
- May 18, 1972. Fr. Leo McCarthy met With Dean Juanita Murphy at the Arizona State University.⁸
- May 22, 1972. Fr. Ernest Larkin met with Bishop McCarthy.
- June 5, 1972. Dick Regan and Fr. Leo McCarthy met with Dr. Kignin at Arizona State University concerning extension courses.
- June 6, 1972. \$20,000 allocation from the 1972 Charity and Development Appeal is made to the Academy of Religion.⁹
- June 7, 1972. Fr. Leo McCarthy went to San Francisco, to consult with Rev. Frank Murphy and other officials at the University of San Francisco.
- June 9, 1972. Letter from Bishop McCarthy to Fr. Malachy Smith.¹⁰
- June 10, 1972. Carmelites left for the Provincial Chapter in Mundelein, Ill.
- June 12, 1972. Letter from Fr. Malachy Smith to Bishop McCarthy accepting the parish of St. Agnes. "... Fr. Ernest Larkin has been hoping that this would be the parish involved since it offers such a wonderful facility for the beginning of the Kino Institute—the Diocesan Academy of Adult Religious Studies ..."¹¹
- June 12, 1972. Phoenix *Gazette* announced that the Church of St. Agnes will be under the care of the Carmelite Fathers.
- July 2, 1972. Fr. Leo McCarthy arrived at St. Agnes as "interim" person for the Province.¹²
- July 27, 1972. Bishop McCarthy wrote a letter to all priests of the Diocese concerning Kino Institute.¹³
- Aug. 1972. *Alive* magazine announced selection of courses for the first term of Kino Institute.
- Aug. 11, 1972. Phoenix *Gazette* announced list of Kino courses.
- Aug. 12, 1972. *Arizona Republic* announced Kino courses.
- Sept. 6, 1972. Dedication ceremonies in the Church of St. Agnes that inaugurated Kino Institute.¹⁴

II. Purpose and Goals

The Kino Institute is named in honor of Padre Eusebio Francisco Kino, S.J., a missionary who laid the foundation of Christianity in the southwest 75 years before the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Padre Kino established a number of missions, including San Xavier del Bac in Tucson. The Diocese of Phoenix was formed from the Tucson Diocese in 1969.

The Kino Institute is dedicated to the expansion and development of Padre Kino's work in a manner appropriate to our time and culture. Its focus encompasses all phases of continuing and adult religious education in the Diocese of Phoenix.

1. Perspective

Adult religious education must clearly become an important part of the fabric of American Catholicism if the norms of the Second Vatican Council are to be followed. *The General Catechetical Directory* stated: catechesis for adults, since it deals with persons who are capable of an adherence that is fully responsible, must be considered the chief form of catechesis. All the other forms, which are indeed always necessary, are in some way oriented to it." (#20) Endeavors such as the Kino Institute are explicitly encouraged in the *Directory*. (#109)

2. Statement of Purpose

The Kino Institute is an extension of the teaching office of the Bishop of the Church of Phoenix, who is concerned with the efforts to "make men's faith become living, conscious and active through the light of instruction." (*Christus Dominus*, #14). It will encourage the growth of theological insight and judgment; foster an appreciation of tradition and reason, and adhere to the spirit of the Gospel and the norms of the magisterium of the Church. The Institute proposes to help

the present generation of adults in their continuing task of relating the Gospel message to the current human experience.

3. General Goals

a) To generate the recognition of the contemporary importance of continuing adult theological education and to supply opportunities for the implementation of this objective in the diocese.

b) To promote adult education in those areas of religious training and ethical practice which affect personal growth, community responsibility and sensitivity to the Gospel message of Jesus Christ.

c) To collaborate with other diocesan efforts in the research, study and growth of a total adult religious education program for the Church of Phoenix.

d) To be a community resource reflecting the Catholic tradition concerning contemporary religious questions.

e) To establish a resource for theological study.

f) To participate ecumenically wherever possible.

4. Variety of Programs

Lectures, courses, seminars, workshops, and in-depth studies are offered on a continuing basis at the Kino Institute and at other convenient locations in the diocese.

Taking its cue from the documents of Vatican II, the Kino Institute is pledged to the dynamic development of the Church of Phoenix. It will continually modify its programs and methods in the light of experience, mindful of present and future needs of adult religious education in the 70's and beyond.

5. Kino Institute is for:

a) Priests and religious who wish to keep abreast of current scripture studies, theology and spirituality; deacons and candidates who are preparing for the ministry of the

permanent diaconate in the Diocese of Phoenix;

b) Religious Education Coordinators, C.C.D. and Catholic School personnel who need to update the content and methodology in the field of education.

c) College students who wish to add a theological dimension to their education.

d) All adults who wish to enrich their Christian lives by growing in the knowledge of their faith.

6. Administration

The Kino Institute is presently under the direction of the Chicago Province of the Carmelite Fathers.

III. Organizational Structure

The present (October, 1974) organizational structure of the Kino Institute is as follows:

1. President

The president of the Kino Institute is appointed by the Bishop of Phoenix, to whom he reports directly. His is a full-time, annually renewable appointment which is incompatible with any additional major assignment that would be considered a full-time occupation. The President should have earned an advanced theological degree.

Duties of the President:

a) to represent the Kino Institute, personally or through a delegate, in negotiations involving the overall objectives and operation of the Institute, both with the Bishop and the parish staff at St. Agnes, which is the Institute's headquarters;

b) to preside at faculty meetings of the Institute;

c) to be the official spokesman for the Institute in matters of public policy;

d) to be responsible ultimately for the policies, teaching, research and development of the Kino Institute;

e) to be a full-time instructor at the Kino Institute with a class load mutually agreed upon with the staff and appropriate to the demands of the aforesaid executive duties;

f) to recruit and negotiate for faculty members as needed.

2. Administrator

The Administrator is appointed by the President to plan and direct the day-to-day operation of the Kino Institute. He reports directly to the President. He should have earned a graduate degree in Theology and/or Religious Education.

Duties of the Administrator:

a) to determine curriculum according to need and availability of instructors;

b) to assign instructors;

c) to schedule classes: time and location;

d) to prepare publicity: writing, design, etc.;

e) to assist in mailings;

f) to prepare the annual budget;

g) to oversee all accounts;

h) to supervise office procedures;

i) to prepare quarterly reports;

j) to be the primary liaison with the Permanent Deacon Program;

k) to be the primary liaison with the Office of Religious Education;

l) to cooperate actively with the President in Research and Development programs;

m) to be a full-time instructor at the Kino Institute with a class load mutually agreed upon with the staff and appropriate to the demands of the aforesaid executive duties.

3. Librarian

A Librarian is appointed by the President to plan and direct the establishment and development of a theological research library. The Librarian will consult with the Kino Institute staff.

Duties of the Librarian:

- a) to make the final determination after consultation with the staff as to the purchase of books, serials and other holdings;
- b) to keep the financial records pertaining to the library in cooperation with the Administrator;
- c) to oversee the physical organization of the library;
- d) to establish and maintain a cataloguing system;
- e) to be a full-time instructor at the Kino Institute.

4. Full-time Faculty

A full-time faculty member is a qualified person whose principal work responsibility is teaching and the associated duties of participation in planning and promotion of the work of the Kino Institute. A full-time faculty member is to have no other principal diocesan or religious community work responsibility. A full-time faculty member is engaged from the time of employment until the end of the fiscal year, June 30th. The agreement of employment must be renegotiated annually no later than March 1st.

Duties of full-time Faculty:

- a) to teach a minimum of four courses in the Fall, Winter, and Spring terms;
- b) to be available for special courses, seminars or conferences in the intervening months of the academic year;
- c) to teach two Summer courses if employed on a 12-month basis;
- d) to perform such course-oriented tasks as: research and preparation, gathering and preparation of A-V materials, pastoral public relations (visits, guest lectures, homilies, visibility), Kino housekeeping (coffee, classroom cares, etc.);
- e) to participate actively in regular faculty meetings;
- f) to accept additional responsibilities as mutually agreed upon with the staff.

Priority of extenuating circumstances will be considered and resolved mutually.

5. Part-time Faculty

A part-time faculty member is engaged on a per-course basis. An honorarium is paid to such a person unless he or she is a full time employee of the diocese and is performing a principal task of teaching.

Duties of Part-time Faculty:

A part-time faculty member is committed only to the preparation and presentation of the course for which he or she is engaged.

6. Secretary

A skilled secretary is engaged on a part-time basis to operate the administrative office of the Kino Institute. At the present time such a person can be shared with the Marriage Encounter office of the Diocese. A mutually agreeable schedule of not less than 20 hours per week will be established.

Duties of the Secretary:

- a) to prepare and record class rosters;
- b) to keep permanent records up-to-date;
- c) to keep addressographs up-to-date;
- d) to keep all financial records;
- e) to develop and maintain a filing system;
- f) to prepare brochures for mailing;
- g) to do stenographic work for the staff;
- h) to assist in maintaining the library.

7. Remuneration Policy

- a) Priests and Sisters according to established diocesan policy: salary, transportation, insurance, housing, retirement;
- b) Lay: as negotiated plus 12¢ per mile car allowance for travel related to the business of the Kino Institute;
- c) Secretary: according to diocesan schedule;
- d) Part-time faculty: honorarium plus mileage where applicable.

IV. Conclusion

Kino Institute had a modest but successful beginning. After only two years of operation, the prospects for the future are bright. Fr. Brennan Hill, O.Carm., and Sr. Timothy McHatton, O.P., were hired as full-time faculty members in 1972-73, and the next year Fr. Michael Mulhall, O.Carm. replaced Fr. Brennan.¹⁵

In the 1972-73 academic year, there were 49 eight-week courses offered to 1244 students. During the 1973-74 year the number

rose 43%. Some 1780 students took advantage of 68 different locations where Kino courses were offered.

With continued diocesan support, it is anticipated that the Kino Institute will fulfill the mandate which Bishop McCarthy gave it, and become a moving force in the religious education of the Church of Phoenix. With continued Carmelite support, the Kino Institute will be an apostolate that will appeal to men who see themselves called to a form of adult religious education that is not limited to the traditional parish structure.

¹ Casa Santa Cruz is a converted complex of small apartments purchased by the midwestern province of the Holy Cross Fathers. It is an "apostolic house" for men working in Phoenix, and also a "rest and relaxation" facility for the province.

² This amount was the estimated cost of middle-class dwelling with five bedrooms.

³ Right from the beginning, Bishop McCarthy hoped that some Kino courses could be granted academic credit through Arizona State University or a Catholic college out-of-state.

⁴ Dean Bruinsma was interested in our venture, and a proposed new department of religious studies at the University would be under the College of Fine Arts.

⁵ These letters went to Religious Education offices around the United States and Canada, especially to institutions that specialized in adult religious education.

⁶ Fr. Ernest Larkin was the Diocesan Theologian-in-Residence. R. William O'Brien was Diocesan Canonist and Associate Secretary to the Bishop. Fr. Leo McCarthy was Diocesan Associate Director of Religious Education. Fr. J. Stephen Weil was doing Youth Ministry at St. Matthew's parish and also chaplain at Maricopa County juvenile Detention Home.

⁷ Br. Dorson was enthused about the possibility of some association between Kino Institute and the University of Notre Dame, especially since men from Notre Dame would be coming to Phoenix on "R & R."

⁸ A course in Medical Ethics was proposed to the School of Nursing at Arizona State University and tentatively accepted for credit as an extension course.

⁹ There is no financial obligation on the part of the Carmelites toward the Kino Institute. All monies for the operation of Kino are from tuition fees and/or assistance by the Charity and Development Appeal. Because of expanded operations, Kino Institute was allocated \$30,000 in 1973-74.

¹⁰

June 9, 1972

Very Reverend Malachy Smith, O.Carm.
Prior Provincial, Carmelite Fathers
45 East Dundee Road
Barrington, Illinois

Dear Father Smith:

I am pleased to inform you that the Diocese of Phoenix has accepted the offer of the Carmelite Fathers to accept a parish in the Diocese of Phoenix. It is understood the Carmelite Fathers will also provide leadership and some staffing of the *Kino Institute* which is to be the diocesan *Academy of Adult Religious Studies*.

The parish to which we intend to assign the Carmelite Fathers is St. Agnes. This is one of the most prominent parishes of the diocese. Its physical facilities have been completely constructed and are very well done. It has almost no debt (\$10,000), but at this time is meeting with some difficulty its operational budget.

The parish was founded and cared for over thirty-one years by Monsignor Robert J. Donohoe, a distinguished member of our clergy, community leader, and the dean of the Phoenix area during its growing period.

The parish is responsible for Doctor's Hospital and some convalescent homes in its territory. The parish requires the services of three priests.

The proposal date of the transfer is the Feast of Our Lady's Assumption.

Monsignor Donohoe has suggested that one of the Carmelites might move into the parish earlier so that he might introduce him to the affairs of the parish and some of the parishioners to affect the transition smoothly for the parish he loves.

We would not like to make any announcement of this change until we have made the announcement here, including that of Monsignor Donohoe's new position in the diocese.

With all personal good wishes, I am

Devotedly yours in Christ,

/signed/

(Most Reverend) Edward A. McCarthy

Bishop of Phoenix

June 12, 1972

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Most Reverend Edward A. McCarthy, J.C.D.

Bishop of Phoenix

400 East Monroe

Phoenix, Arizona 85004

Your Excellency,

It is with a sense of very grateful feeling that the Carmelite Fathers accept your most gracious offer of the parish of St. Agnes. Father Ernest Larkin has been hoping that this would be the parish involved, since it offers such a wonderful facility for the beginning of the *Kino Institute*—the *Diocesan Academy of Adult Religious Studies*.

We begin our chapter today and I understand that the news will be released to the press in Phoenix today. Leo McCarthy, whom you know from his work this past year in Phoenix, will be at St. Agnes Parish on July 2, 1972, to help the turn-over process. He has already spent some time with Monsignor Donohoe and discussed this matter.

We shall do our best to obtain the best men possible for this assignment, the men will hopefully be in Phoenix a good bit of time before the actual exchange on August 15, 1972.

Once again please accept, in the name of the Carmelite Fathers, our sincere thanks and our pledge to work at our very best for the benefit of the people of the Diocese of Phoenix.

Asking God to continue to bless you and your work, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

/signed/

Very Rev. Malachy H. Smith, O.Carm

Prior Provincial

¹² An "interim" person was deemed important to a smooth transition. Msgr. Robert Donohoe, founding pastor, was to have offices in the Diocesan Center, and live in an apartment. Rev. William McKay became the founding pastor of All Saints in Mesa. Rev. George Schroeder, T.O.R., was transferred back east, and Rev. John Gaffney, S.J. was reassigned out-of-state. Rev. Leo Brogan, who was in residence, was assigned residence at the Diocesan Center. The first Carmelites to staff the parish were Frs. Murray Phelan (pastor), Bernard Lickteig and Regis Tremblay.

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July 27, 1972

Beloved in Christ:

In the May issue of *Alive* magazine I announced that an Academy of Religion would be established in the Diocese. It will have its formal opening in September, and will be known as Kino Institute. Padre Eusebio Francisco Kino, S.J., was a missionary who brought the gospel message to many people in southern Arizona. He founded the mission of San Xavier del Bac. He introduced, cattle-raising and mining in our area, and was the first to prepare maps of much of our territory. With this historical perspective, the Kino Institute will continue the work begun by this zealous priest in a manner appropriate to our time and culture.

I have asked the Carmelite Fathers to assume responsibility for this noble venture. Father Leo McCarthy, O.Carm. will be the Executive Director of the Institute. Father Ernest Larkin, O.Carm. will act as its President and Theologian. Mr. W. Richard Regan, a member of the first class of permanent deacons in the Church of Phoenix, will be the Associate Director and Liaison Officer between the Institute and other diocesan-wide religious education activities. Assisting in setting up initial programs will be Father Brennan Hill, O.Carm., Ph.D., from Marquette University.

The documents of Vatican II, as well as the recent *General Catechetical Directory*, make us all aware that the relationship between the gospel message and our times is under constant development. So our Kino Institute will dedicate itself to ongoing theological education by offering programs and courses for our priests, religious and all our people, especially those engaged in school and CCD religious education programs.

The Institute will meet a need for adult education revealed in the 1970 attitudinal survey, and in "Planning for the Seventies" studies. Contemporaneity will be a concern of the Kino Institute, but it will always keep a keen eye to the traditions on which the present is based, especially it will be faithful to the magisterium of the Church.

I have asked that courses be offered at different levels, e.g., graduate courses for coordinators who have professional degrees as well as intermediate courses for those with less formal religious training. In time I hope that our Kino Institute will also be a research and resource center for the community in questions of religious teaching and ethical practice. And eventually the Institute will be in a position to grant undergraduate and/or graduate credit through affiliation with Arizona State or some Catholic college or university.

Although the Kino Institute will formally begin shortly after Labor Day, in June three courses were offered for catechists who feel that they need some formal training before entering the classroom in September.

The Kino Institute fulfills a dream of a floating university to offer our people courses in religious studies that would be offered in the best of Catholic colleges and universities. This dream will become a reality only with your support. I foresee a most competent staff, but a faculty without student support will not achieve the goal.

With kindest personal regards, I urge you to give your cooperation to this newest implementation of our "Planning for the Seventies."

Devotedly yours in Christ,

/signed/

(Most Reverend) Edward A. McCarthy

Bishop of Phoenix

¹⁴ After a brief prayer of welcome and dedication by Bishop McCarthy, Rev. Roland E. Murphy, O.Carm., gave the inaugural address. A reception followed in the St. Agnes Parish Center.

¹⁵ Before the beginning of the third academic year, September, 1974, Fr. Leo McCarthy's apostolic efforts were focused on "Marriage Encounter". At the same time Fr. Charles Kurgan replaced Michael Mulhall as full-time faculty member and librarian.