

Sunday November 22, 2009 □ CatholicNews

NEWS

One-year-old Catholic Business Network a 'work-in-progress'

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SINGAPORE – Catholic Business Network (CBN) members hailed the group's success on its first anniversary but agree that the service is still evolving.

Sixty members marked the occasion with a networking dinner on Wednesday Oct 28 in Pasta Fresca Da Salvatore Restaurant at Boat Quay.

CBN has been successful in meeting its objectives, said its spiritual director Monsignor Eugene Vaz and members.

The network was officially launched on Oct 30 last year. It aims to help Catholic business owners and professionals instil Catholic values and ethics in their work, and encourage them to serve the broader community.

The organisation is still a "work-in-progress" as Monsignor Vaz pointed out.

He added that CBN will continue to equip its members to conduct business with truth and Catholic values while providing them with networking opportunities.

Philip Tee, a printer who also runs a business matching platform, had attended a few



of the fellowship sessions and spiritual talks. He said the talks have helped him to reflect on his Catholic faith in the workplace and in life.

The experience has given Mr Tee, 37, a "few business referrals" and expanded his social network.

National University of Singapore Extension Director and CBN committee member, James Tay, said that the talks have been well received by members who have developed new friendships among themselves.

CBN wants to compile a members' business directory. It

is working with Catholic Prayer Society to help the unemployed and retrenched find jobs within CBN members' businesses.

Regular talks and networking sessions will continue to be the core of CBN's activities.

CBN Executive Director Albert Lim told CatholicNews that the group aims to build a "trust network where businessmen and professionals can stand on the same platform, beliefs and faith to do business on a common ground based on trust".

Catholic Business Network is an affiliate of Caritas Singapore Community Council. □