



The **mission** of the Vicariate is to be responsive to the ministry of its parishes, schools, institutions, and agencies by:



Coordinating pastoral planning



Enhancing communications and networking



Promoting collegiality



Identifying and utilizing all resources which can be shared

Contact:

Fr. Jerry Brzezinski, Vicar
 248-373-6457
 jbrzezinski@ameritech.net
 Lew Elbert, VPC Chair
 248-673-5502
 ebertje@mindspring.com

Vicariate Pastoral Council Kicks Off New Year

Your Pontiac Area Vicariate Pastoral Council requests your attention and prayers as we begin another year of service with new officers and members. Our efforts to strengthen the Catholic ministries within the Vicariate are immeasurably assisted when each member of our parishes has knowledge of our activities and petitions the success of our plans through their prayers.

The Pontiac Area Vicariate is a geographical area consisting of a cluster of Roman Catholic parishes, schools, institutions, and agencies within the Archdiocese of Detroit where support, pastoral planning and resources are identified and shared for the benefit of all. Like many of the ministries at your parish your Vicariate is staffed by faithful volunteers appointed by their parishes and organizations and a few dedicated administrators. It is led by an elected priest, your Vicar.

Vicariate Pastoral Plan

For the past few years, in the context of the Archdiocese of Detroit's "Together in Faith" initiative, your Vicariate Pastoral Council has been creating and executing a Pastoral Plan. The focus of the plan has been in three areas: Sacramental, Strategic and Sustainable.

Sacramental Focus Areas

- Strengthening our understanding of the Gift of Sacraments, how Sacraments are the essential celebration and how the priests in the Vicariate service sacramental needs.
- Responding to the demand for sacraments from the Hispanic community and finding ways of supporting the development of Hispanic ministry in the PAV.

- Addressing the growth in the Northern part of the Vicariate.
- Responding to the decline of ordained ministers.

Strategic Focus Areas

- Initiating dialog regarding areas of need within the Vicariate.
- Coordinating Parish activities to increase the development of Christian Service and supporting social service agencies within the PAV.
- Involving and engaging youth, young adults, and young families in the life of the Parish communities and Vicariate.

Sustainable Focus Areas

- Coordinating and educating PAV members on stewardship.
- Engaging and developing lay women and men as ministers to support sacramental and pastoral activities.
- Supporting the financial needs of Catholic Schools and their integration in the pastoral and Sacramental life of parish communities.

Milestones and Objectives

Significant progress has been made in executing the Vicariate Pastoral Plan. Ad hoc committees have been formed to study objectives and report to the VPC. Highlights of the work accomplished to date and planned for this year are summarized on the following page.

*Steve Lawless, VPC Vice-Chair
 St. Joseph Parish Representative*

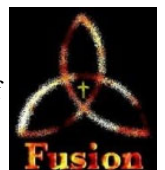
(Continued on page 2)

The Many Ministries of the Pontiac Area Vicariate

A Vicariate is often assumed to be composed of a group of parishes which form its boundaries. Overlooked is the fact that many other ministries are involved and interact with the parishes themselves to serve the larger community. In the case of the Pontiac Area Vicariate, we have 12 parishes involved, but also some 23 other ministries. This column is intended to be a continuing series about those "other ministries" that we are blessed to have in our area.

Fusion Ministry

Fusion is a vibrant and welcoming community of Catholic young adults (age 17-35) from around our Pontiac Area Vicariate that gathers together several times each month for a variety of spiritual, service and social events. There are roughly 40 young adults in leadership roles for this ministry, and well over 250 active ministry members. Visit the Fusion website at www.myspace.com/fusionyoungadultministry for current happenings.



Benedictine Monastery

The Benedictine Order has served in the Archdiocese of Detroit since the early 1900's and was an integral part of the early Church here. The monastery is located in the hills outside of Oxford and provides a beautiful setting for the work, prayer, and reflection for monks in residence there. They serve the Pontiac Area Vicariate by providing a witness for the monastic life as they teach in our Catholic schools, conduct youth retreats, assist in Parishes, and offer an Oblate program. *

Members:

Parishes

- Christ the Redeemer, Orion Township
- Pontiac Catholic Community
 - St. Michael
 - St. Joseph
 - St. Vincent
- Sacred Heart of the Hills, Auburn Hills
- St. Andrew, Rochester
- St. Benedict, Waterford
- St. Irenaeus, Rochester Hills
- St. John Fisher, Auburn Hills
- St. Joseph, Lake Orion
- St. Mary of the Hills, Rochester Hills
- St. Paul Albanian, Rochester Hills

Schools

- Holy Family Elementary, Rochester/ Rochester Hills
- Marist Academy Lower Level St. Benedict Campus, Waterford
- St. Joseph School, Lake Orion
- Marist Academy Middle School, Pontiac
- Notre Dame Preparatory, Pontiac

Catholic Cemeteries

- Guardian Angels
- Mt. Hope

New Parish Ad Hoc Committee Report

One of the Sacramental focus areas of the PAV Pastoral Plan is to address the growth in the northern part of the Vicariate and the possible need for a new parish to serve this area. To address this objective, an ad hoc committee was formed in July 2006 to study and all aspects of this question. The committee consisted of members from St. Andrew Parish in Rochester, St. Joseph Parish in Lake Orion, and St. Benedict Parish in Waterford.

The main purpose of the committee was to learn the requirements to establish a new parish. Committee members reviewed documents from the Archdiocese of Detroit, studied the demographics of the northern vicariate and also of St. Andrew and St. Joseph

Parishes. Interviews were conducted at these parishes with the pastors and some of the parish council members

Recommendations were made to the Vicariate Parish Council in April 2007. It was determined that because of the economic conditions at present, this issue should be re-visited in 18 to 24 months. This may give the economy a chance to recover enough where progress can be made. It was also suggested that the lines of communications remain open between these parishes and the Archdiocese of Detroit. ✱

*Connie Cunningham
St. Benedict Parish VPC Representative*

VPC Kicks Off New Year

(Continued from page 1)

Summarized in the table below are highlights of the progress that has been made in executing the Vicariate Pastoral Plan as well as the goals and plans for the

coming year. Those that are moved to offer their time, talent or treasure are asked to contact their parish representative or anyone on the Vicariate Pastoral Council. ✱

Pastoral Plan Focus Area	Progress to Date and Future Plans and Objectives (2007-2008 VPC Objectives in Bold)
Sacramental	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PAV Lay Volunteer Pastoral Minister Training Program: "A Call To Serve" (ACTS) • Study Parish Management Plan to address the loss of one or more Pastors • Hispanic Pastoral Plan Assembly and development of PAV Hispanic Pastoral Plan • Ad Hoc committee on New Parish business case • Pastoral Care of the Sick ad hoc committee report • Implement the 2006/2007 Hispanic Pastoral Plan • Integrate the PAV and Pontiac Catholic Community's Hispanic Pastoral Plans • Create and implement ACTS Hispanic component • Implement the Pastoral Care of the Sick recommendations
Strategic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PAV Communication Plan: PAV Quarterly newsletters and PAV website • "Together in Faith" Assembly • Create and support the Catholic Community Response Team (CCRT) • Youth, young adult, and young family programs; PAV Youth Minister program plan and collaboration in vicariate events. • Support for Genesis Ministries. • Create VPC Guidelines and Operational Procedures and PAV Finance Committee • PAV Racism Assembly (February 2007) • PAV Assembly on the Identification and Coordination of Christian Service Activities (October 2007) • Study and recommend multi-parish youth ministry programs • Plan and execute a High School Youth Encounter • Offer two "A Call To Serve" (ACTS) training sessions
Sustainable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PAV Stewardship Assembly (March 2006) • Create and implement "Try It On" and "Mission Possible" Coordination Plan • Create and implement Lay Ministry Coordination Plan • PAV Vision 2000 implementation and completion • Support Marist Academy Elementary School Scholarships • Implement ACTS • Implement a PAV Communications Committee • Develop PAV Communication Plan

Parishes and Schools in the PAV

Holy Family Regional School

www.holyfam.org

North Campus, Grades K-3
1240 Inglewood, Rochester
248-656-1234

South Campus, Grades 4-8
2633 John R, Rochester Hills
248-299-3798

Notre Dame Preparatory / Marist Academy

www.ndpma.org

Marist Academy Lower Level
60 S. Lynn, Waterford
248-682-5580

Marist Academy Middle School
1300 Giddings Rd, Pontiac
248-373-5371

Notre Dame Preparatory
1300 Giddings Rd, Pontiac
248-373-5300

St. Joseph School

www.stjosephlakeorion.org

703 N. Lapeer, Lake Orion
248-693-6215

Christ the Redeemer Parish

www.ctredeemer.org

2700 Waldon, Lake Orion
248-391-1621

Pontiac Catholic Community

St. Michael
120 Lewis, Pontiac
248-332-9167

St. Joseph Shrine
400 South Blvd, Pontiac
248-332-9872

St. Vincent de Paul
150 E. Wide Track Dr, Pontiac
248-332-0283

Sacred Heart of the Hills

www.esacredheart.org

3400 Adams, Auburn Hills
248-852-4170

St. Andrew Parish

www.standrewchurch.org

1400 Inglewood, Rochester
248-651-7486

St. Benedict Parish

www.stbencc.com

80 S. Lynn, Waterford
248-681-1534

St. Irenaeus Parish

www.stirenaeus.org

771 Old Perch, Rochester Hills
248-651-9595

St. Mary of the Hills Parish

www.stmarysofthehills.org

2675 John R, Rochester Hills
248-853-5390

St. Paul Albanian

525 W. Auburn, Rochester Hills

248-844-8201

St. Joseph Parish

www.stjosephlakeorion.org

715 Lapeer, Lake Orion
248-693-0440

St. John Fisher Chapel University Parish

www.stjohnfisherparish.org

3665 Walton Blvd, Auburn Hills
248-373-6457



Members:

Religious Communities

- Oxford Dominican Sisters
- St. Benedict Monastery

Chaplaincies

- Crittenton Hospital
- North Oakland Medical Center
- Oakland County Jail
- Oakland County Juveniles
- POH Medical Center
- St. Joseph Mercy Oakland

Nursing Homes

- Lake Orion
- Mercy Bellbrook
- Oakland County Medical Care Facility
- Lourdes Campus

Oakland County

- Campus Ministry
- Catholic Community Response Team
- Catholic Social Services
- Genesis Young Adult/Campus Ministry
- Fusion Ministry
- Guest House



ACTS: A Call To Serve

ACTS is a program to introduce new ministry volunteers to the scope of parish service and to enhance the quality of veteran ministry volunteers. Comments from those who have participated in past sessions include: "Thought provoking," "Beneficial for defining ministry," and "Absolutely more than I expected."

Find out for yourself at the next training session on Saturday, September 29, at St. Irenaeus Parish from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM. Lunch will be provided. For more information, email Parishserv@aol.com or call Nancy Mason Bordley at 248-373-6457.

