

SUMMER 2009



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

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The Gift of the Vicariate

As Vicar of the Pontiac Area Vicariate for the past seven years, I am proud to share with you the accomplishments of the men and women of our Area Church. The volunteers who have served on the Vicariate Pastoral Councils and committees have each been a key component in the endeavors you will read about below. In their capacity as professional ministers and staff, the vibrant Pastoral Ministers' Association complements and enhances all of these activities.

Each year, goals and objectives were developed for the Vicariate Pastoral Council and the Pastoral Ministers' Association. These priorities came from feedback from parish councils, PAV assemblies, the Archdiocese of Detroit, PAV priests, and pastoral staff. By studying and discussing important issues that affect everyone in the Pontiac Area Vicariate we were able to learn from each other and find solutions that all could benefit from. As I reviewed the last seven years, I am reminded again how the Spirit moves through us!

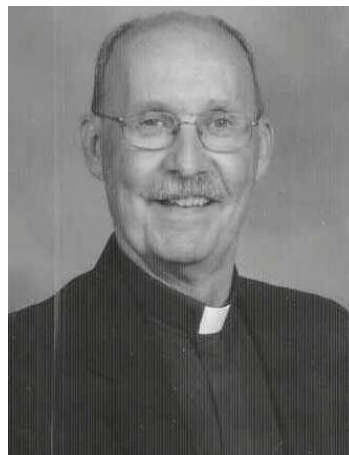
Highlights of the PAV 2002-2009

Hispanic Initiatives: In September 2006, a Hispanic Pastoral Assembly was held at St. John Fisher Chapel University Parish. This was the first time men and women from all around the PAV came together to focus solely on the growing number of Hispanic members in our Vicariate. The assembly was designed to help

everyone in the PAV – parishes, schools, agencies and institutions – better serve and welcome Hispanic immigrants in our communities. A major part of this gathering was a presentation on the National Pastoral Plan for Hispanic Ministry that calls for all baptized to work together toward mutual enrichment. Since 2006, the VPC has had an ad hoc committee every year solely focused on Hispanic-related issues in the PAV. These committees have used surveys and resources at the AOD to reach out to Hispanics in all our parishes. This newsletter is translated into Spanish, the PAV website will soon have sections in Spanish, the ACTS lay volunteer training program will be offered in Spanish, and later this year the first ever Hispanic Gathering will take place with Bishop Flores presiding at Mass.

Lay Volunteer Training:

From our earliest surveys and discussions, ways to engage lay ministry volunteers emerged as a key area of common need. The Pastoral Ministers' Association took the lead on this with Nancy Mason Bordley, Sr. Mary Ann Dixon, and Nancy Clancy working for several years to write a curriculum and develop materials for training lay volunteers. The result was ACTS: A Call To Serve, a six-hour training program that includes a strong foundation in theology including the Who, What, and How of Parish Ministry. Over 150 people have taken ACTS training and have been commissioned to serve in



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their parishes and other organizations.

A major achievement in the last seven years is the creation and ongoing support for the **Catholic Community Response Team**. Founded in 2004 to provide direct referral and support services to those with crisis needs, CCRT works to build a permanent bridge between two populations who live in close proximity, but whose life experiences are worlds apart: those in crisis with urgent, unmet needs (primarily in the Pontiac area), and volunteers wanting to live out their faith through works of charity and justice. Hopefully, most everyone in the PAV is at least a little bit familiar with CCRT, either through parish outreach efforts, donations or direct involvement. Especially now, when our area is experiencing unprecedented hardship, CCRT provides a Christian

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PAV Hispanic Gathering Happens September 6

Are you Hispanic? Would you like to meet and share with other Hispanic men and women in the Pontiac Area Vicariate? Would you like to learn about other Hispanic activities in the PAV? Would you like to bring some new activities to your parish and/or the PAV?

The Pontiac Area Vicariate Hispanic Gathering will be held on September 6, 2009 at 3:00 PM at St Mary of the Hills Catholic Church in Rochester. Bishop Daniel Flores will be the celebrant at Mass, which will be followed by presentations from PAV parishes, networking time, food and fun.

Watch for more details in your parish bulletin or the PAV website during the summer. For more information, or to volunteer to help make this a great event, contact Hispanic Committee Chair, Dawy Gonzalez-Ruiz at dawy05@hotmail.com. *

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

compassionate response to those in need. CCRT's funding and support comes from the Catholic parishes within the Pontiac Area Vicariate, Catholic Social Services of Oakland County, the Archdiocese of Detroit and generous churches and individuals from the greater community.

Pastoral Care of the Sick:

The largest effort of the VPC and the PMA over the past three years has been to address the Pastoral Care needs of the sick in our Vicariate. Two surveys, conducted in 2006 and 2007, confirmed that this was an area that needed the attention of the entire Vicariate. With help from the Archdiocese of Detroit, specific areas of need were identified and a plan put in place to address these needs, most especially access to the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick. A parallel effort is also underway to educate people in the Area Church on the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick and Viaticum. A publication on this issue is included with this newsletter.

The PAV website has a new section with a wealth of information. Find it at www.pontiacarevicariate.org.

Assemblies: Twice each year the leadership of the PAV gathers together to socialize, pray, get acquainted, and learn about a topic of importance to everyone. During my time as vicar, we have had many dynamic meetings. Some of the more notable include:

- *Together in Faith* study results
- *True Stewardship* with speaker Bernard DuMond from the Institute for School and Parish Development
- *Hispanic Pastoral Plan* with Santiago Fernandez
- *Racial Sobriety* with speaker Rev. Clarence Williams
- Christian Service Coordinators

roundtable

- Regional Assembly with five vicariates, speaker Dr. Patricia Cooney-Hathaway
- *Who is My Neighbor?* Election Issues, speaker Jill Rauh
- *The Paradox of Power* with Fr. Michael Crosby

Youth and Young Adult

Ministry: Serving the needs of our youth and young adults has consistently been a priority in the PAV. Over the past seven years many initiatives have been successfully implemented. For our school-age children, the PAV has supported our parish youth ministers in several ways. Chris Kozlowski, Youth Minister at St. Mary of the Hills, has served on the VPC and is an active participant in the PMA. He

"It would be an understatement to say that without Fr. Jerry's vision, young adult ministry would not be what it is in the Archdiocese of Detroit. Rather, without his vision, passion and wisdom, our young adults would not have the resources or support that now exists through both Genesis Ministries and the partnership with the Archdiocese as a whole. Having begun in the area surrounding St. John Fisher in 2003, due to his commitment and support, and quite frankly, justified impatience with the existing structure, Genesis Ministries grew to encompass the five vicariates in Oakland County. Now, by the grace of God and the groundwork laid by Fr. Jerry and the Genesis Ministries initiative, the Archdiocese of Detroit can boast one of the strongest ministry initiatives for young adults in the United States. Thank you, Fr. Jerry, for your perseverance, your voice and your continued wisdom."

Rakhi Roy, Genesis Ministries Director

has coordinated regular meetings of the other PAV youth ministers, which has led to several PAV-wide youth events each year.

For younger children, the PAV helped get Marist Academy Lower Division up and running in the former St. Benedict school building. Now in its sixth year of operation, Marist provides a Catholic school option for the southwestern PAV parishes and benefits from its association with Marist Academy and Notre Dame Preparatory schools.

Young Adults in the Vicariate have their own PAV-sponsored group called Fusion that began in 2002. They have a monthly young adult Mass and many other service and social activities. Genesis Min-

istries began in 2005 and serves five vicariates in Oakland County.

Vision Campaign: The

Pontiac Area Vicariate was the first Vicariate in the Archdiocese of Detroit to address school funding as a Vicariate issue. The Vision 2000 Campaign for Catholic education raised money to support our schools. This allowed Marist Academy (lower and upper division), Notre Dame Preparatory, Holy Family Regional School, and St. Joseph School to become state-of-the-art educational facilities. The Vicariate still administers this campaign as pledges made are fulfilled.

Internal Governance: The

Vicariate Pastoral Council has also devoted time and energy into becoming an efficient and well-run organization that can change members and leadership with continuity. Operating documents have been written and committees have been created and staffed that address internal governance and controls. Our primary methods of communication, the quarterly newsletter and the PAV website are designed to be accessible and

informative to all. Effort has also gone into forward planning to address growth in the northern part of our vicariate and dealing with planned or emergency priest shortages.

I hope the reader will agree that the Pontiac Area Vicariate is blessed to have such a dynamic and faith-filled membership. There are too many people to name individually, but to everyone who has served on the Vicariate Pastoral Council or the VPC Executive Committee, the Pastoral Ministers' Association and its Planning Team, the many committees and work groups throughout the years – THANK YOU! ✿

*Fr. Jerry Brzezinski
PAV Vicar*

PAV Service Operations Committee Update

Hello, we are the PAV Service Operations Committee. Our mission is to provide stewardship oversight of the Vicariate's operational services, to assure the appropriate support of the Vicariate and continued benefit to the constituents. The following is a partial summary of God's work that the PAV Ministries are accomplishing. The article below on Youth Ministry details this ministry. *

Dale Youngpeter, Committee Chair

<p>Catholic Community Response Team (CCRT) Note: CCRT has moved to: 53 Franklin Blvd. Pontiac, MI 48341 Phone: 248-334-3595 ext. 3332</p> <p>Period: 07/01/08 to 04/30/09</p> <p>Clients 186 Calls per week 100 Food 186 Clothing 219 Evictions Prevented 122 Security Deposit Support 72 Job Information 30 Total Need Requests 1036</p>	<p>A Call to Serve (ACTS) Period: 09/01/06 to 04/30/09 Number of lay ministers trained: 157 Number of Training Sessions to Date: 6 Number of Sessions per year: 2 Candidates per session: 30</p> <p>Genesis Ministries Period: 05/01/08 to 04/30/09 Diocesan Events per year 2 Retreats per year 4 Standard events a month 20-30 Young Adult Masses a year 11 PAV Parishes involved 7</p>	<p>Active Young Adult Groups 7 Young Adults Served 350</p> <p>Vision 2000 Campaign for Catholic Schools Period: 07/01/08 to 04/30/09 Campaign's Budgeted Income 2008-09 \$ 72,722 Campaign's Budgeted Expenses 2008-09 \$ 5,241 Campaign's Budgeted Cash flow 2008-09 \$ 68,501</p>
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Youth Ministry Wants to Unify Our Young People as a Team

The Pontiac Area Vicariate Youth Ministry brings together the Parish Youth Ministries of our Vicariate and shares the vision and mission of our area churches with our young people.

The PAV Youth Ministry is intended to provide collaboration on events, dances, trips, and service projects. This enables serving a larger number of young people than could be done by a single Parish and results in more opportunities for our youth. Parish Youth Minis-

ters also benefit by having to coordinate fewer major events each year.

Youth Ministry subscribes to the "Youth Ministry Access" Website to keep Youth Ministers informed as to the latest youth programs and information. The PAV budget also subsidizes speaker expenses such as talks are on Youth / Parent Relationships.

The Youth Ministry Group has been assisting Pontiac Area Vicariate Parishes since 2006.

If your Parish Youth Ministry is not participating in the benefits of the PAV Youth Ministry, have your Parish Youth Minister contact Chris Kozlowski, chrisk@smoth.org

Period: 05/01/08 to 04/30/09

Events per year 6
 Staff participation 6
 Youth Minister Meetings 12
 Parishes served 7
 Parishes completing "Called To Serve" (Archdiocesan Youth Protection Program) 3

Hail and Farewell

The Pontiac Area Vicariate bids farewell to two longtime members and welcomes three new priests. We extend thanks and warm wishes to Sr. Marian Harvey, IHM, who is retiring after serving in the PAV since 1981. In recent years, Sr. Marian has been a chaplain at the Lake Orion Nursing Center. She is moving to the motherhouse in Monroe, MI.

Sacred Heart of the Hills pastor Fr. Jim Mayworm is also retiring and will be deeply missed by his parishioners and all who have known him in the PAV. He celebrates 43 years of priesthood on June 6 of this year. For about 15 of those years, Fr. Jim had a radio ministry that eventually became a television ministry, called *Because He Lives*. Fr. Jim has been pastor at Sacred Heart for 13 years. He will be moving to Punta Gorda, Florida, and will be helping out at two parishes in that area. One of them is also named Sacred Heart!

The PAV welcomes Fr. Richard Cavellier, Fr. Jim Kean, and Fr. John O'Keefe. Fr. Cavellier will be the new pastor at Sacred Heart of the Hills and joins us from a previous post at St. Alan/St. Columban. Fr. Kean will be the new pastor and Fr. O'Keefe associate pastor of the Pontiac Catholic Community. All changes are effective on July 1.



Sr. Marian Harvey and Fr. Jerry Brzezinski

Members:

Religious Communities

- Oxford Dominican Sisters
- St. Benedict Monastery

Chaplaincies

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

Nursing Homes

- Lake Orion
- Sanctuary at 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

PAV Website:

www.pontiacareavariate.org

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