

SPRING 2010



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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An Invitation to All in the Pontiac Area Vicariate

The Christian in the 21st Century



with

Fr. Timothy Radcliffe, OP

Thursday, March 11, 2010

Light dinner 6-7 PM

Presentation 7-9:15 PM

St. Paul Albanian Parish

525 Auburn Road, Rochester Hills, MI 48307

Fr. Timothy Radcliffe, OP, is a Dominican Friar, renowned speaker, and award-winning author. He is a member of the Dominican Priory at Blackfriars, Oxford, England. His books include: *Sing a New Song*, *The Christian Vocation*, *Seven Last Words*, *What is the Point of Being a Christian?* (winner of the Michael Ramsey Prize for theological writing), and *Why Go To Church? The Drama of the Eucharist*. Renew your spirit and sense of hope during the Season of Lent!

This event is free and all are welcome to attend.

Because we anticipate a full house, registration is required by March 5, 2010

Online: <http://radcliffe.eventbrite.com/>

Email: rsvp@pontiacareavicariate.org

If online or email is unavailable, phone 248-652-0954

Vicar's Voice

Dear Friends in the Pontiac Area Church, The Lenten Season is a wonderful time to reflect on our connection to the death and resurrection of Jesus. As we experience new members of the Church preparing for Baptism and full initiation into the faith, we are reminded that conversion is the hallmark of our union with Jesus. "Turn away from sin and have faith in the Gospel" is a daily undertaking and a response to Jesus' call. His great love for us makes it possible. His mercy forgives us and His presence sustains us in our journey of faith. As we invite others to join us on this journey and recommit ourselves to our own Baptismal prom-

ises, may we be filled with the joy and peace of Easter.

I'd like to thank the former Vicar of the Pontiac Area Vicariate, Fr. Jerry Brzezinski, for his seven years of vision and leadership in this area Church. Even though I've been at St. Mary of the Hills for nearly six years, I didn't fully realize how well our vicariate was organized and how many people were involved. There is truly a wonderful collaboration among the parish staffs, institutions, agencies, volunteers, religious and priests in our vicariate. The programs and projects of the vicariate reflect a concern for the poor, the sick, immigrants, youth, young adults, education, parish leadership, lay minis-

try, cooperation and communication. I'm delighted to be working with Judy Gordon, the Vicariate Administrative Assistant, and Paul Borucki, the Business Manager. I trust that I can fill Fr. Jerry's shoes and be of service to you and your parish communities.

A current project at my own parish is the expansion of ministry to married couples. I hope to encourage this project in the Pontiac Area Vicariate. This ministry looks to better prepare couples for marriage, strengthen and build up existing marriages, assist couples in troubled marriages, help reconcile those who are separated (or even divorced), and support couples and

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Members:

Parishes

- Christ the Redeemer, Orion Township
- St. Damien of Molokai, Pontiac
- 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



Pontiac Area Vicariate Athletic League

Sports League Encourages Family, Fun and Fellowship

In 1989, Fr. Jerry Brzezinski, Sr. Jeanne Wiest, and Helen Peters met to discuss forming a softball league for the Pontiac Area Vicariate. They secured a playing field and the Pontiac Area Vicariate Athletic League (PAVAL) was born. The co-ed softball league began in the summer of 1990 and the volleyball league in the winter of 1992.

The league was created for all Catholic parishes and institutions within the PAV to promote fellowship, build community, enhance communications and foster Christian values through athletic endeavors. The ability for parents to play with their teenage children (over age 15) is something unique and special the league offers.

PAVAL is overseen by a main Commissioner and one each for Softball and Volleyball. From inception until November 2006, the PAVAL Commissioner was Helen Peters, a St. John Fisher parishioner, who worked hard to establish the family-friendly competitive spirit of the league. Carolyn Claerhout, St. John Fisher, has been the PAVAL Commissioner for the last four years. Phil Martin, St. Joseph's, was the Volleyball Commissioner for

nine years, and was succeeded by Mike Zabat, St Mary's, last season. Many people from across the vicariate have served as Softball Commissioner. The current Softball Commissioner is John Vandercruyssen, St. Mary's.

The softball season is played on Tuesday and Thursday evenings in June and July at Notre Dame Prep with a season ending tournament and home run derby contest. The league champs get their team name engraved on the "Brzezinski Bat" award, a plaque named after the founding vicar. The plaque is displayed at the winning parish during the off-season. The tournament champions receive PAVAL t-shirts. Proceeds from the homerun derby contest are donated to a Catholic charity. For the past few years the charity has been the Catholic Community Response Team (CCRT).

There is a "Bonum Spiritu" award, Latin for Good Sportsmanship, given to the individual, team or organization that most demonstrates the values and purpose of PAVAL. Rico Moyet, from St. Damien Parish, was the 2009 "Bonum Spiritu" winner. Last year, the softball league had 7 teams from 5 dif-

ferent parishes. The 2009 League Champion was St. Vincent and the 2009 Tournament Champion was St. Irenaeus/Holy Family.

The volleyball season is played on Sunday evenings in January and February at Notre Dame Prep with a season ending tournament. The league champs and tournament winners get their churches' names engraved on the "Vicar's Volleyball" award, a plaque that is shared with the winning parishes during the off season. Last year's League Champion was St John Fisher 1, the Gold Tournament Champion was St Joseph's 2, and the Silver Tournament Champion was St Mary of the Hills 2. This year, the volleyball league has 8 teams from 5 different parishes. The season has started so come on out to Notre Dame Prep on Sunday evenings and cheer your team on.

If you are interested in learning more about PAVAL, want to form a team in your parish, or come to a game, there is more information on the Pontiac Area Vicariate website. Look for the PAVAL Sports icon at www.pontiacarevicariate.org. ✱

Lent Events Around the PAV

Check with parishes for additional services and Holy Week schedules.

Christ the Redeemer, Lake Orion
Taize' Prayer, Tuesdays at 7 PM

St. Paul Albanian, Rochester Hills
Stations of the Cross W, F, 6:30 PM
Confession M, T, W, F at 6 PM
Mass M, T, W, F at 7 PM
Thurs Mass only, 8AM

St. Irenaeus, Rochester Hills
Communal Penance Service,
March 23 at 7:30 PM
*Lenten Discussion Series with
Deacon Paul Lippard*,
March 1, 8, 15, 22 at 6:45 PM

St. Joseph, Lake Orion
Communal Penance Service,
March 25 at 7 PM

St. Mary of the Hills, Roch Hills
Stations of the Cross, Fridays at
noon followed by bread meal;
Stations alone at 7 PM
Lenten music worship service,
March 21, 7:30-9 PM
Communal Penance Service,
March 31 at 7 PM

St. Damien of Molokai, Pontiac
Bilingual Penance Service,
March 22 at 7 PM at St. Michael
Stations of the Cross (English),
Fridays during Lent, 7PM at Shrine
of St. Joseph
Stations of the Cross (Spanish),
Mondays at 7 PM at St. Michael

St. John Fisher, Auburn Hills
Communal Penance Service,
March 16 at 7:15 PM

Sacred Heart of the Hills, Aub Hills
Communal Penance Service,
March 15 at 6:30PM
World Religions, 7 PM in the Fr.
Kreft Hall on Feb 24, March 3, 17

St. Andrew, Rochester
Stations of the Cross,
Fridays at 7:30 PM
Weds after 8:30 AM Mass
Lenten Reconciliation Service,
March 18, 2010 at 7:30 PM

St. Benedict, Waterford
Stations of the Cross, Fridays at 7 PM
Mass 12:15 PM Fridays

**Sacrament of Anointing
St. John Fisher**

After 5:30 PM Saturday and
10:00 AM Sunday Masses:
Mar 27/28, Apr 24/25, May 29/30

Career Ministries Help Those in Transition

Everyone reading this is well aware of the economic challenges facing our area. In an effort to help address the many needs of the unemployed, three PAV parishes offer career ministries. All groups welcome new members.

St. Andrew Career Ministry was begun three years ago by Chairperson Betty Dobies. They now have three Assistant Chairs and 30 volunteers that help manage the group. Attendance at meetings averages over 100 job seekers, and can swell to 250 on evenings such as a presentation of Federal Government employment. Services available include:

- Presentations with professionals such as HR Managers, Recruiters, Career Counselors.
- One-On-One workshops that allow for individual consultation on such things as reviewing a resume, interviewing, networking, or skills assessment.
- Website listing job opportunities, presentations, workshops, job fairs and much more. (<http://finance.groups.yahoo.com/group/standrewcareernetwork/messages>)
- Partnership with Oakland University's Counseling Center for both career and psychological counseling.

Regular meetings are the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month. Contact Betty Dobies (bettydobies@wowway.com, 248.373.0707) for more information.



St. Irenaeus Career Path Network (CPN) was formed by a group of volunteers and the Office of Christian Service

to provide opportunities for local job seekers to come together for networking, support, job search advice, job leads, resume feedback, and other valuable career transition information and resources. Semi-monthly meetings, open to anyone, are typically held the first Tuesday of each month from 10 AM until noon and the third Tuesday from 7 until 9 PM. These meetings focus primarily on "structured networking," where participants are given three minutes each to:

1. Introduce themselves.
2. Discuss briefly their professions, backgrounds, skills, and accomplishments.
3. Explain the type of position(s) they are seeking.
4. Ask the others for suggestions, contact names, etc.
5. Allow time for others to respond with specific advice, suggestions, or information.

Some meetings begin with presentations by fellow members on relevant

topics, with occasional, highly-publicized events or presentations by noted experts.

To find out more about this group, contact Jen Gerada at 248.656.8720, ext.12, or email cpn@stirenaeus.org. Join their LinkedIn group at "St. Irenaeus Career Path Network."

St. Mary of the Hills Career Ministry, called CARE (Christian Action Response to the Economy), was formed to foster meaningful career choices and equip job seekers with the resources necessary to adapt to the current employment challenges. Begun in March 2009, they are open to all job seekers in the community. CARE meets on the third Monday of each month at St. Mary's. A leadership team of volunteers also meets once or twice a month to plan and coordinate the ministry.

Presentations and workshops have focused on:

- Career planning & networking
- Need based referrals
- Assessing marketable skills
- Resume writing and editing
- Interviewing skills

To connect with this ministry, visit their website at smothcareer-network@yahoo.com. You can also contact Mark Joyce (mjoyce7@yahoo.com, 248.651.6251) or the parish office at 248.853.5390 ext. 245. ✱

Members:

Religious Communities

- Oxford Dominican Sisters
- St. Benedict Monastery

Chaplaincies

- Crittenton 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

- Catholic Community Response Team
- Catholic Social Services
- Genesis Young Adult/Campus Ministry
- Fusion Ministry
- Guest House
- St. Mary's Retreat House

PAV Website:

www.pontiacareaviciariate.org

Email:

admin@pontiacareaviciariate.org

Vicars Voice, (Continued from page 1)

children in second marriages. While acknowledging the various professionals and organizations that are involved in aspects of this ministry, one of our goals is to recruit our own parishioners to act as mentors for other parishioners in the various areas of this ministry and to make as many enrichment opportunities as possible parish based. There is also an interfaith aspect to all of this as we invite other congregations to join with us in acknowledging how we as a community can have an impact on strengthening and supporting marriage for the good of spouses, children and society.

May your Lenten prayer, fasting and almsgiving transform your heart into the merciful heart of Jesus!

Fr. Stan Ulman, Vicar



ACTS is a one-day program to train lay ministers for voluntary service. Presentations include a strong foundation in Parish Ministry and practical communication skills.

April 17, 2010, 9:00 AM — 3:30 PM

St. Irenaeus, 771 Old Perch Rd, Rochester Hills, 48309

Name: _____ Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____ Parish: _____

Return this form and check for \$10.00 (\$30 if outside the Pontiac Area Vicariate) to: PAV/ACTS, 3665 Walton Blvd., Auburn Hills, MI 48326 by April 13, 2010. For further information please email Nancy Mason Bordley at Parishserv@aol.com or visit the PAV website.