

SPRING 2011



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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Fond Farewell to Three PAV Leaders

Three familiar faces will not be in their usual posts after July 1. Sr. Karen Hawver, principal of Holy Family Regional School, Fr. Frank Pollie, pastor of St. Irenaeus, and Fr. Anton Kcira, pastor of St. Paul Albanian, are all close to enjoying well-earned retirements.

In August 1991, Holy Family Regional School opened the doors for a new school year with a new Principal, Sr. Karen Hawver, S.C. Holy Family will close the 2010-2011 school year saying goodbye to Sr. Karen. For twenty years Sr. Karen has led the school guided by her vision:

“A school in which excellence is the only standard. A school in which children thrive and grow as learners. A school in which all staff challenge each other to be better professionals within an atmosphere of trust. A school led by an administrative team of creative, responsible leaders. A school where parents’ input and involvement is seen as a vital part of the learning experience for children. A school where everything accomplished is done with the guidance of the Spirit of God and in the name of Jesus.”

The twenty years has led to many changes: from a single campus school of 2 classes per grade, 495 students, 30 faculty and staff in 1991; to a two-campus, 4 classes per grade, 1067 students, 104 faculty and staff in 2011. Sr. Karen will be remembered for her love of music, her vitality, and compassion for all of God’s people.

Sr. Karen feels that this is the right time to leave Holy Family as the school celebrates its 30th anniversary. Additionally, in July, she will celebrate her 50th year as a Sr. of Charity. Sr. Karen is not retiring, but will help with her religious community, and continue her counseling work. Thanks to her leadership and guidance, the faculty and

staff, students and parents will welcome the new principal, Mr. Jon Meyers, and will embrace the future.

Fr. Frank Pollie retires after 11 years as pastor of St. Irenaeus in Rochester Hills. During that time, the parish has experienced growth in size and activities. In 2007, a major church renovation was completed that included new pews, lighting, and sound system.

Fr. Frank grew up on the east side of Detroit and attended Guardian Angels and Patronage of St. Joseph elementary schools, Sacred

Hills, will become the new pastor of St. Irenaeus.

Fr. Anton Kcira is retiring as the leader of the St. Paul Albanian Catholic Community. Originally from Kosovo, Fr. Kcira came to Detroit in 1989 at the request of the papal nuncio. At the time, Kosovo was part of the former Yugoslavia and the political climate was becoming increasingly dangerous for Catholics, especially priests. Fr. Kcira found out after he arrived in this area that the Serbian police had been given orders to arrest him for starting new Catholic churches and

speaking out against police killings from the pulpit.

When he first arrived, he was put in charge of St. Paul Parish, which was then a parish of fifty families in Warren. By the time



Gratitude and Best Wishes to Fr. Frank Pollie, Sr. Karen Hawver, and Fr. Anton Kcira

Heart Seminary for high school and college, and completed his education at St. John’s Provincial Seminary in Plymouth. Since his ordination in 1967, Fr. Frank has served at parishes all around the Archdiocese of Detroit. In the PAV, he has been pastor of St. Joseph and Christ the Redeemer, both in Lake Orion.

Asked about his time at St. Irenaeus, Fr. Frank praised the community and the parish staff. He has been touched by the generosity of parishioners, witnessed through the many Christian Service projects they participate in, including South Oakland Shelter, Habitat for Humanity, a special Lent veteran’s project, and many more. He said that leading such a faith-filled community has been a joy, adding:

“Celebrating the sacraments with people, and being with them during the most important moments in their lives, has been the most rewarding part of my 44 years serving as priest and pastor”

Fr. Frank intends to remain in the area after his retirement. Fr. Brian Chabala, currently pastor at St. Fabian parish in Farmington

the new parish complex was built in Rochester Hills in 2002, the community had grown to 1,800 families. At a dedication of a memorial in 2006, also attended by the president of Albania, Cardinal Maida praised the parishioners and Fr. Kcira, saying, "Your presence among us has truly been a blessing to our Church of Detroit. In particular, I thank Fr. Kcira for his outstanding pastoral leadership and the accomplishment of building this magnificent worship space, the largest Albanian church in the world."

Active participants in the Pontiac Area Vicariate, St. Paul’s has hosted numerous assemblies and meetings in their large banquet hall. This vibrant and close-knit community is considered a national church and members travel from all over the state to attend Mass.

The PAV thanks Sr. Karen, and Frs. Pollie and Kcira all for their years of service and dedication to our vicariate. Best wishes to all for a long and happy retirement! ✱

Members:

Parishes

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

Vicar's Voice

Dear Friends in the Pontiac Area Church,

As the 2010-2011 parish fiscal and school year winds down this month, we will be bidding farewell to many individuals in our parish and school communities who are either retiring or moving on to other ministries and places. We are indebted to those who have walked with us and our families on our faith journeys. Three parishes in our Vicariate and Holy Family Regional School will have major changes in leadership beginning in July. We're grateful to Fr. Anton Kcira, pastor of St. Paul's Albanian, Fr. Frank Pollie, pastor of St. Irenaeus, and Sr. Karen Hawver of Holy Family Regional School for their many years of dedicated service and faith-filled leadership to the families of our region. We ask God to bless them as they transition to new ways of working in His vineyard. We also thank Msgr. John Zenz, pastor of Holy Family Parish in Birmingham for serving as the Episcopal Vicar and Regional Moderator for our area. We eagerly await those who will take

on the important roles of teaching, sanctifying, and leading Catholics in the Pontiac Vicariate. May the gifts of the Holy Spirit be theirs in abundance.

Planning for change takes a lot of work and is never easy; but failing to plan can make things even worse. Representatives of all our Archdiocesan schools and parishes have been meeting since the beginning of the year in "Together in Faith II" to map out how ministry in the Detroit Archdiocese should look. Basically the task is to identify our vision and mission for the Church in this place and time, set goals and objectives for fulfilling that mission, find and use the resources necessary to share Christ in and through the Church.

The economic problems of our area and the demographic shifts of population in recent years have put some parishes and schools at risk of closing, clustering or merging. Many of these parishes no longer have the membership or enrollment to maintain buildings and programs established in earlier years. Furthermore the fact that in

ten years there will be probably 30% fewer active priests than today forces us to examine how we can maintain being a Church centered on the Eucharist and sacraments. I'm grateful to the representatives for the time they have dedicated to poring over and discussing the internal and external data that is available and for their ideas and suggestions on how to proceed. After the summer break we will be coming together again to review plans for parishes, vicariates and the whole Archdiocese of Detroit.

Please support your parish's 2011 Catholic Services Appeal. This is one campaign that truly touches the lives of people in all of southeast Michigan. It is a very specific way to fulfill the mandate that Jesus gave to His disciples at His Ascension: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations!" We make disciples by our own witness to Christ's death and resurrection shown in our love for God and one another. Have a blessed summer!

Easter peace and joy,
Fr. Stan Ulman, Vicar ✱



Welcoming the Roman Missal, Third Edition New Words: A Deeper Meaning, the Same Mass

Almost 300 people attended the PAV spring assembly on March 31 to hear Fr. Richard Fragomeni explain the coming changes in the language of the Mass. Resource materials are available on the Archdiocese of Detroit website (www.aodonline.org) and from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (<http://usccb.org/romanmissal/>). The first use of the new text will be on the First Sunday of Advent, November 27, 2011.

Meet Jon Myers — New Holy Family Principal

Holy Family Regional School will welcome a new principal, Mr. Jon Myers, as school begins in the fall. Mr. Myers has served as principal at St. Benedict School in Waterford and assistant principal at St. Joseph School in Lake Orion.

Mr. Myers has his Masters in Educational Leadership from Northern Arizona University and his Bachelors in Education from Michigan State University. He is an advocate for Catholic Education and is currently earning his certification in Catholic Educational Leadership at Creighton University.

One of his goals for the coming school year is to strengthen the partnership between Holy Family Regional School and the five supporting parishes. "I am looking forward to working closely with the pastors and staff members in our vicariate to look for ways in which our youth can be more involved in advancing the mission of our local parishes."

Holy Family Regional School has grown over the past thirty years to become the largest Catholic school in the Archdiocese of Detroit. "I am always amazed and impressed to see the number of young families

that are so dedicated to providing their children a Catholic education. I am anxious to work with the staff of Holy Family School and meet the children from our parishes."



Jon Myers, new principal at Holy Family

Holy Family Regional School is now enrolling students in grades K-8 for the fall. Feel free to contact the school office at 248.656.1234 for further information. ✱

“Movers and Shakers” Help Those In Need

Hopefully you've heard about the great work being done in Pontiac by CCRT - the Catholic Community Response Team. It is sponsored by our Vicariate with a mission to provide direct referral and support services to those in need.

Over the past two years, a group of men has been collecting basic household items (e.g. beds, tables, chairs, couches, bikes, etc.) from parishioners in the PAV area, and delivering them to CCRT clients who need them. In the past 8 months, they have “moved and shaken” about 100 donations to 70 clients. If you have household items that you would like to donate or if you would like more information on how to join the crew, please call Lew (248-673-5502) or Joe (248-375-2441). *



Summertime Around the PAV

All are welcome at these PAV Summer events. Call the number listed for more information.

Sacred Heart

3400 S. Adams, Auburn Hills
248-852-4170

- Eucharistic Adoration, first Monday of the month (except holidays). Exposition begins following the 9 AM Mass and concludes at 5:30 PM with the Liturgy of the Hours and Benediction.

St. Damien of Molokai

248-332-0283

- Anointing of the Sick
After noon Mass on the first Wednesday of each month at the Shrine of St. Joseph, 400 South Blvd West, Pontiac.

St. Irenaeus

771 Old Perch, Rochester Hills
248-651-9595

- Red Cross Blood Drive, Sunday, August 7, 8-2 PM. Coordinated by a Notre Dame high school student who will earn college scholarship money from the Red Cross. To schedule an appointment go to www.givelife.org and use sponsor code:irenaeus.

Career Path Network (Programs held in the parish hall.)

- June 7, 10 AM - "Standing Out in a Crowd" with Elliot Gold
- June 21, 7 PM - Jill Jordan

speaking on "Etiquette and Dress Bring Success"

- July 19, 7 PM - Chris Plantrich on "Building a Better Resume"
- August 2, 10 AM TBA
- August 16, 7 PM - Claudia Roeder on "Negotiating Compensation"

Email cpn@stirenaeus.org or www.stirenaeus.parishesonline.com

St. Paul Albanian

525 W. Auburn Rd. Rochester Hills, 248-844-8201

- 4th of July Festival—Begins Friday at 7 PM and runs through Monday. All are welcome to enjoy Albanian music and food.

St. John Fisher

3665 Walton Blvd., Auburn Hills
248-373-6457

- Anointing of the Sick—After 5:30PM Sat. & 10AM Sun. Mass Jun 25/26, Jul 30/31, Aug 27/28
- College courses leading to a Bachelors degree are offered at St. John Fisher. “Foundations of Sacred Scripture,” taught by Dr. Mary Ann Dixon, OP begins June 20. Details at www.stjohnfisher.parish.org

Dominican Sisters of Peace

775 W. Drahn Road, Oxford,
248-628-2872

- St. Thomas Aquinas Library is open to all daily after Mass and during business hours upon request. The library houses a large collection of religious books including books on Theology, Prayer, Scripture, Church, Christian Life and biographies. Call 248-628-2872 and ask for Sister Joan Marie, Librarian.
- Vivian's Via Rosa, an adult spirituality center, is available for individual and small-group retreats, spiritual direction, and opportunities for reflection and prayer. Located on beautiful Lake Scott in Waterford. 734-330-5060. www.vvrreretreats.org,

Catholic Social Services of Oakland County

- Annual Meeting with awards and refreshments. June 15, 6 PM at Sacred Heart parish, 3400 S. Adams, Rochester Hills. RSVP by calling 248-537-3300 ext. 3317.

Guest House

- 26th Annual Golf Classic, June 13 at Indianwood Golf and Country Club in Lake Orion. The cost per golfer is \$225 (clergy rates available). Details at www.guesthouse.org or by calling 248-391-4445.

Members:

Religious Communities

- Dominican Sisters of Peace
- St. Benedict Monastery

Chaplaincies

- Crittenton Hospital
- Oakland County Jail & Outreach Ministry
- 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

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

PAV Website:

www.pontiacareavicariate.org

Email:

admin@pontiacareavicariate.org



Agape Young Adult Summer Retreat August 13-14

All Oakland University Students are invited to be a part of our Agape University Ministry Summer Team Building Retreat from 11:30 AM on Saturday, August 13 through 9 PM Sunday, August 14 at the Colomiere Retreat Center in Clarkston, MI. On this two-day retreat you will meet 25+ of your fellow students at OU who share your values, interests and passion for God. To register please visit our website at www.agapecommunity.net or contact Lisa Brown at abad@oakland.edu, 248-370-2189. BONUS: The retreat site features an outdoor pool! *