

WINTER 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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Advent Offers Sharing and Service Opportunities

The days of December often disappear in a flurry of shopping, parties, and year-end deadlines. Don't let 2010 end without making someone else's life easier and sharing your blessings with those who are struggling. The PAV offers many ways to reach out, right in our own backyard.

CCRT — Investing in Lives, Making a Difference

Holiday Greetings from the Catholic Community Response Team! Our sincere appreciation goes out to all of you who have supported the Pontiac Community and the Catholic Community Response Team this past year. Because of you, we have been able to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and shelter the homeless.

This year has been difficult for so many families. The Christmas season is the perfect time to reach out to those who have struggled the most. Our goal this Christmas is to find 1000 people to give just \$10 for utility payments for individuals and families without heat and electricity. We know this will be a difficult task so we ask each of you to consider your blessings and decide if you are able to help with this goal.

Many families we serve go for long periods with no heat or lights. Sometimes space heaters are used when the gas bill goes unpaid. This can be dangerous and expensive. Sometimes families are broken up, moving out of homes until they can be reconnected to services. This takes a toll on both parents and children.

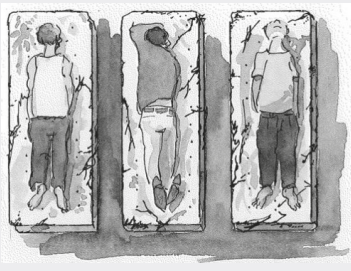
If you can help, please complete the coupon below. If you are unable to help this year, maybe you can pass this along to a friend or relative. Whatever you can do to spread the word and help us reach our goal would be a huge gift.

Many blessings to you and your family this Christmas Season. Remember that you are a part of our Vicariate, our Area Church at work, and you give voice to the voiceless. *

Barbara J. Williams,
 CCRT Director

"Our goal this Christmas is to find 1000 people to give just \$10 for utility payments for individuals and families without heat and electricity"

Can You Help?



Sending Out An SOS For New SOS Mattresses!

Help! SOS (South Oakland Shelter) is in need of new mattresses.

What can you give the person who has everything for Christmas? Perhaps a donation towards a new mattress for SOS would warm their heart and give SOS clients a gift that will give back all year.

SOS provides supportive programs and resources to homeless individuals and families in need. Through their partnerships with over 60 partner congregations they provide temporary shelter for over 300 families and individuals each year. Several vicariate parishes host SOS guests each year or support them through generous donations.

The current mattresses have been in use for several years and since they are moved each week they are showing their age. SOS needs 45 mattresses to meet their clients' needs and each mattress costs \$150.

Donations should be sent to: Pontiac Area Vicariate – SOS, 3665 Walton Blvd., Auburn Hills, MI, 48326. For more information, visit our website at www.pontiacarevicariate.org. *

Catholic Community Response Team—A Pontiac Area Vicariate Service Operation

When I was hungry, you gave me food; when I was homeless or in jail, thirsty or naked, you responded to me.

CCRT needs your help! Our requests for basic aid are way up, and our resources are down. Any amount you can send to help the truly needy in our own Vicariate is much appreciated!

I/We can help with:

___ Rent ___ Utilities ___ Food/Clothing ___ Household Items
 ___ \$10 ___ \$20 ___ \$50 ___ \$100 ___ \$\$\$

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Mail To: Pontiac Area Vicariate — CCRT (Checks Payable to *Pontiac Area Vicariate-CCRT*)
 3665 E. Walton Blvd, Auburn Hills, MI 48326-2236

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

Happenings Around the PAV

If you have not visited another PAV parish, perhaps one of these special services will fit your schedule. Mass times are available on the PAV website.

Advent Reconciliation Services

Sacred Heart of the Hills

3400 S. Adams, Auburn Hills
Monday, December 13, 6:00 PM

St. Andrew

1400 Inglewood, Rochester
Thursday, December 16, 7:30 PM

St. Benedict

80 S. Lynn, Waterford
Wednesday, December 15, 7 PM

St. Damien of Molokai

46408 Woodward Ave
(St. Vincent de Paul)
Wednesday, December 15, 7 PM

St. Irenaeus

771 Old Perch, Rochester Hills
Tuesday, December 21, 7:30 PM

St. John Fisher

3665 Walton Blvd., Auburn Hills
Tuesday, December 14, 7:15 PM

St. Joseph

715 Lapeer Rd., Lake Orion
Thursday, December 16, 7:00 PM

St. Mary of the Hills

2675 John R, Rochester Hills
Tuesday, December 21, 7:00 PM

**Anointing of the Sick
Communal Services**

Sacred Heart of the Hills

3400 S. Adams, Auburn Hills
Friday, April 1, 2011, 9:00 AM

St. John Fisher

3665 Walton Blvd., Auburn Hills
After 5:30 PM Sat. and
10:00 AM Sunday Masses:
Dec. 18/19, Jan. 29/30, Feb. 26/27

St. Mary of the Hills

2675 John R, Rochester Hills
Sunday, March 27, 2011, 12:30 PM

St. Joseph, Lake Orion

715 Lapeer Rd., Lake Orion
Saturday, April 2, 2011, 11:00 AM

Once Upon a December

A musical story of rediscovering the true meaning of Christmas.

**December 16 and 17
7:00 PM**

**St. Benedict Parish
80 S. Lynn Waterford**

The adult choir, contemporary group *Harvest*, and the kids of the parish are all involved. There will be acting, dancing, staging, solos. An entertaining FREE evening for everyone to get into the Christmas mood!

Save the Date!

PAV Spring Assembly

**Thursday, March 31, 2011
6-9 PM**

St. Mary of the Hills

Guest Speaker:

Fr. Richard Fragomeni

**Check your bulletin and the
March PAV newsletter for
complete details.**

Habitat For Humanity

Are you interested in owning your own home? Habitat for Humanity of Oakland County is seeking partner families for their homes. To qualify, you must have need, the ability to pay for your new home, and the willingness to partner with Habitat. For more information contact Jason Gapa, Partner Family Liaison, at 248-338-1843 x303

*It's not a handout...
it's a hand UP!*

PAV Service Operations Update

Presented below is an update on the activities and the accomplishments of the PAV Ministries, prepared by the PAV Service Operations Committee, whose mission is to provide stewardship oversight of the Vicariate's operational services. The following items represent some of God's work that the PAV Ministries are accomplishing.

Dale Youngpeter, PAV Service Operations Committee Chair

PAV Service Operations By The Numbers...	Genesis Ministries	Catholic Community Response Team
Period: 9/01/06 to 10/09/10	Period: 4/1/09 to 10/31/10	Period: 11/01/09 to 10/31/10
No. of lay ministers trained: 202	Diocesan Events per year 2	
No. of Training Sessions 8	Retreats per year 4	REQUESTS FULLY MET
Number of Sessions per year: 2	Standard events a month 20-30	Food 1507 1431
Candidates per session: 30	Young Adult Masses a year 11	Clothing 622 587
	PAV Parishes involved 7	Furniture/ Household Goods 409 381
	Active Young Adult Groups 7	Identification 122 109
	Young Adults Served 350	Rent 219 147
		Utility Help 131 87
		Medical 10 8
		Eyeglasses 27 22
		Job Info 53 52
		Transportation 11 11
		Information 220 212
		Total 3331 3047
Vision 2000 Campaign for Catholic Schools	Youth Ministry	
Period: UPDATE 07/01/10 to 9/30/10	Period: 4/1/09 to 10/31/10	
Actual Income 2010-11 \$ 900	Events per year 6	
Actual Expenses 2010-11 \$ 739	Staff participation 6	
Actual Cash flow 2010-11 \$ 161	Youth Minister Meetings 12	
	Parishes served 7	

Vicar's Voice

Anticipation can be very exciting or very frustrating. It's a hard lesson to learn, but sometimes we just have to wait. And waiting can make us better or bitter. My hope and prayer is that the Advent season will not only find us waiting for Christmas but also becoming better. With instant everything and people always striving to go faster it's a wonder that we still honor the Catholic tradition of preparing before celebrating.

Advent calls us to make straight paths for the Lord and to be ready for whatever time He wishes to reveal His presence to us. That revelation may come in the smile of a child or the request of an elderly family member. In may come in an inspiration to offer a hand in friendship or to settle a festering grievance. He reveals Himself among friends and strangers, even enemies. We won't recognize Jesus if our minds are racing or our hearts are burdened. Let us take advantage of the programs, projects, worship

services and fellowship events in our parishes to prepare ourselves to recognize Jesus in our midst. Then we'll have something worthwhile to celebrate at Christmas.

The Archdiocese of Detroit has kicked off the three year parish-based capital campaign entitled "Changing Lives Together."

The initial pilot phase begins soon followed by four additional phases over the next two years. The vision of this campaign is to strengthen our individual parishes, Catholic schools, formation opportunities for priests and lay leaders, and the presence of the Catholic Church in the city of Detroit. The five parishes who support Holy Family Regional School have asked to be in one phase together in order to include a project for HFRS in their campaigns. Before each parish actually starts soliciting donations, there will be at least a two month period of prayer, preparation, information and involvement of lay leaders. In his meeting with the

priests the Archbishop emphasized the need to work together and present the mission of the Church as a worthwhile undertaking worthy of our time, talent and treasure. You will be receiving much more information as your parish engages in the campaign.

Our Vicariate is always looking for ways to share information and resources. The Pastoral Ministers' Association and the Vicariate Pastoral Council regularly exchange ideas and open their trainings and programs to members of the whole Vicariate in order to develop a broader sense of Church. These exchanges not only foster a wider sense of community but also help individuals and parishes attain needed skills while saving money. If you're looking for opportunities to serve or learn, visit our website or contact your parish vicariate representative. *

Advent peace and joy,
Fr. Stan Ulman
PAV Vicar

Do You Want to Make a Difference in a Child's Life?

During our six years of service in the local community, the Catholic Community Response Team (CCRT) has found that the most effective way to break the cycle of poverty is to improve the quality of education in economically disadvantaged areas. To this end, CCRT is currently recruiting volunteers to tutor at an elementary school in Pontiac. No experience is necessary; volunteers only need a willingness to spend a few hours a week with children requiring help. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact CCRT at ccrt@cssoc.org or 248-334-3595 ext. 3332. *

Day of Formation Affirms and Nourishes Volunteers

Volunteer lay pastoral care ministers from around the PAV gathered on October 30 for a day of formation and renewal. Almost every PAV parish was represented by the 51 participants who shared their stories and listened to speakers Sr. Mary Finn and Fr. Michael Verschaeve. Many had come to their ministry by chance or even somewhat reluctantly. All reported immense satisfaction realizing that for a short time they are the hands and feet of Christ, bringing comfort and spiritual nourishment to those in need.

Represented in the group were ministers to the homebound; those who bring the Eucharist to hospitals, assisted living centers and

nursing homes; jail ministers; and some who sit with the dying. Overall, the program seemed to deeply affirm and nourish the ministers. Organizer Kathy Hasty said, "I was very moved by the collective heart of the generous, compassionate, caring people present, and the life experiences and ministry experiences that had formed them as pastoral caregivers. The amount of outreach to the sick and suffering in the Body of Christ from these people is amazing!"

Sr. Mary Finn, Director of Pastoral Formation at Sacred Heart Pastoral Seminary, affirmed the gifts of prayer and presence and healing. She called ministers to be aware of their images of God and taught

those present about befriending suffering and presenting the sick person with healing images.

Fr. Mike's personal reflection on being ministered to by lay pastoral care ministers at a time of personal tragedy was also deeply moving and affirming. Fr. Mike noted that when grief is in charge, the gifts of presence with those in grief, listening, and ritual prayer are very powerful.

Fr. Mike then blessed and re-commissioned the ministers and urged them to continue to be the hands and feet of Christ to the sick and suffering. Plans are in the works for another Vicariate Day of Formation for our Lay Ministers to the Sick next year. *

Members:

Religious Communities

- Dominican Sisters of Peace
- St. Benedict Monastery

Chaplaincies

- Crittenton Hospital
- Oakland County Jail 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.pontiacarevicariate.org

Email:

admin@pontiacarevicariate.org

