



**Pastoral Ministers' Association Meeting Minutes
November 20, 2007
Meeting held at Mercy Bellbrook**

Planning Team Coordinator Sue Buratto welcomed everyone to the meeting at 10:10 AM. She introduced Mary Andrews, chaplain at Mercy Bellbrook and thanked Bellbrook for hosting the PMA. Sue led the group in prayers and readings focused on thanksgiving and abundance. Sue introduced the speaker for the morning, Fr. Mike Verschaeve.

Presentation

Fr. Mike Verschaeve has been a priest in the Archdiocese of Detroit for 30 years and is currently pastor at St. Joseph parish in Lake Orion. He is currently in the middle of a two-year program for priests called "Good Leaders, Good Shepherds." All priests in the AOD will receive this training that focuses on ways to understand themselves and others and use this understanding in their roles as pastors.

Fr. Mike explained different concepts involved in personality and how we all have fallback positions when dealing with situations. These responses reflect our values and points of view. There are two types of values: Programmed Values and Developed Values. Programmed values are things we take for granted and are shaped by experience. Developed values are premeditated and consciously chosen. For example, consumerism is a programmed value in our society while stewardship and gratitude are developed values.

One of the models used in the Good Leaders program is a Values Points of View grid. Fr. Mike passed out a blank sheet and explained the different parts as the group filled in the form. The model looks like this:

Other-Focused Ends Responsibility Oriented			
<p>Loyalty Seeker</p> <p>Values: Responsible living Devotion Dependability</p> <p>Birth Years: (1901-1924), (1982-2002) Improve established situation from within Examples: New Deal, Social Security Sample Hymn: "One in the Spirit"</p>	<p>Justice Seeker</p> <p>Values: Self Integration Logic Inter-Congruence</p> <p>Birth Years: (1943-1960) Make things better for everyone Examples: Civil Rights; Pax Christi Sample Hymn: "Let There Be Peace On Earth"</p>		
Social Means Responsibility-Oriented		Personal Means Rights-Oriented	
<p>Equality Seeker</p> <p>Values: Self-Expression Growth Helpfulness</p> <p>Birth Years: (1925-1942), (2003-2023) Personal happiness in a socially acceptable way Examples: Women's Movement, Gay Rights Sample Hymn: "Gather Us In"</p>	<p>Freedom Seeker</p> <p>Values: Self-Preservation Independence Ambition</p> <p>Birth Years: (1961-1981) Happiness through my own actions Examples: NRA, Anti-Tax Sample Song: "My Way"</p>		
Self-Focused Ends Rights-Oriented			

Fr. Mike said he now uses this understanding when dealing with parishioners and staff. If one considers where another person is coming from, finding common ground and consensus is much easier. The goal is always to appreciate the gifts of others and work together.

At the end of the presentation, groups discussed these topics at their tables:

1. How the generational cohort of their staff corresponds to the people served.
2. Differences in values points of view between staff members and between staff and congregation.
3. Thoughts on bridging gaps and/or aligning values.

PMA Liaisons

Fr. Jerry introduced a new initiative that was generated at the last Planning Team meeting as a way to keep the PMA vibrant and responsive to all its members. He explained that the PMA was originally the only group of lay people that met in the Vicariate and functioned as both a network for staff as well as the Pastoral Council. A change in direction occurred when the Vicariate Pastoral Council was created, comprising representatives from all of the parish councils. The PMA now exists mainly to serve its members and the Planning Team is looking for ways to further this mission most effectively.

Planning Team member Kim Myers explained that the Planning Team wants to be sure they have input from every group in the PAV. She defined groups as both parish/school/organization and focus area (Christian Service, DREs, etc.) What they are proposing are "PMA Liaisons" – individuals who would be willing to communicate needs and ideas to the Planning Team. These people would not attend Planning Team meetings, but would be willing to respond to requests for information and spread information to their group. Kim will explain this more fully in an email message to all members of the PMA.

Collaborative/Networking

Michigan Human Rights Commission report – Marge Sears, from Gesu parish in Detroit, addressed the group about racism discussion programs. Starting with the PBS film series "Race: The Power of an Illusion," area urban and suburban parishes are starting to partner to discuss racism. She urged those present to consider this in their parishes and offered to assist with materials. She also represents the Michigan Coalition for Human Rights and distributed a list of films that are available for groups to rent.

Vicar's Report – Fr. Jerry said the because of the new Vicariate grouping, the spring assembly will now be a tri-Vicariate event bringing together representatives from the Thumb, Southwest and Pontiac vicariates. It will take place on Tuesday, April 29, 2008 at St. Paul Albanian banquet facility. Dr. Patricia Cooney-Hathaway from Sacred Heart Seminary has been engaged to speak.

The Tracking Committee continues their work. Updates are distributed via email. The PAV will report to the Tracking Committee on our Pastoral Plan progress on January 15. Finally, Fr. Jerry said he has received two nominations for the Keep the Dream Alive award.

VPC Report – Bonnie Banaszek reported that the VPC meets on November 26. Representatives have been asked to bring to the council the top areas of concern to their parish councils.

Announcements

- St. Andrew will host a talk by Mike Yankoski on December 9 at 6:30 PM based on his book "Under the Overpass"
- Nancy Clancy said 24 people attended ACTS training in September
- The Catholic Caucus will have a program on immigration on December 10

The meeting ended with a closing prayer and lunch at 12:10 PM.

Future PMA Meetings

- **Tuesday, January 15, 2008 - PMA meeting at St. Benedict Parish**
- Tuesday, February 19, 2008 - PMA meeting at St. Joseph School
- Tuesday, April 15, 2008 - PMA meeting at St. Mary of the Hills

- **NEW! PAV Spring Tri-Vicariate Assembly – April 29, 2008 at St. Paul Albanian**

- Tuesday, May 20, 2008 - PMA meeting at St. Paul Albanian

Attendance:

Tom Donahoo	Archdiocese of Detroit
Carol Jadach	Archdiocese of Detroit
Barb Williams	CCRT Office
Rakhi Roy	Genesis Ministries/Woodward Corridor
Marge Sears	Gesu Parish
Marian Harvey, IHM	Lake Orion Nursing Home
Mary Andrews	Mercy Bellbrook
Fr. John Blasko	Mercy Bellbrook
Fr. John Berkhart	Mercy Bellbrook
Lorraine Mordenski, O.P.	Mercy Bellbrook
Judy Gordon	PAV Administrative Assistant
Fr. Albert Sescon	Pontiac Catholic Community
Michael Stach	Sacred Heart of the Hills Parish
Nancy Clancy	St. Andrew Parish
Kathy Fabian	St. Andrew Parish
Pat Metz	St. Andrew Parish
Joe Soncrant	St. Andrew Parish
Rae Stumpf	St. Andrew Parish
Bonnie Banaszek	St. Benedict Parish
Maria Geryk	St. Benedict Parish
Pat Busch	St. Irenaeus Parish
Jennifer Gerada	St. Irenaeus Parish
Fr. Frank Pollie	St. Irenaeus Parish
Terri Nelson	St. John Fisher Chapel U.P.
Paul Borucki	St. John Fisher Chapel U.P.
Fr. Jerry Brzezinski	St. John Fisher Chapel U.P.
Sue Buratto	St. John Fisher Chapel U.P.
Nancy Isken	St. John Fisher Chapel U.P.
Mary VanGilder, IHM	St. John Fisher Chapel U.P.
Debbie Bloomgren	St. Joseph Parish
Fr. Anthony Camilleri	St. Joseph Parish
Kathy Galbraith	St. Joseph Parish
Kathy Hasty	St. Joseph Parish
Kim Myers	St. Joseph Parish
Fr. Mike Verschaeve	St. Joseph Parish
Peggy Casing	St. Mary of the Hills Parish
Dan Greig	St. Mary of the Hills Parish
Jan Hall	St. Mary of the Hills Parish
Judith Kozlowski	St. Mary of the Hills Parish
Chris Kozlowski	St. Mary of the Hills Parish
Fr. Stan Ulman	St. Mary of the Hills Parish
Dila Dusovic	St. Paul Albanian Parish
Sr. Lufana Kanaj	St. Paul Albanian Parish