

**Pontiac Area Vicariate
Vicariate Pastoral Council Meeting
Monday, April 23, 2007 St. John Fisher Chapel**

Opening Prayer

Bob Krueger opened the meeting at 7:00 pm. Art Seidler led the opening prayer.

Introductions and New Members

Cathy Settle of St. Benedict and was introduced

Minutes from the 03-26-07 VPC Meeting

Minutes from the 03-26-2007 meeting (Pultizer prize winning) were approved.

“Know My Parish Reports”

1. Dila Dusovic of St. Paul’s Albanian and Art Seidler of St. Irenaeus presented.
2. These presentations are designed to give a brief “flavor” of the parish, or of what makes it “tick.” The suggestion is that VPC members interview a few people from the parish and ask the following questions:
 - a. Which three words would you use to describe your community?
 - b. What are the 2 or 3 key events in the last year that brought the community together?
 - c. Which ministry is getting the most attention at your parish?
 - d. What are your 2 or 3 main concerns when you think about the community’s future?
 - e. What would you like to see happening in your community in the next 12 months?

New Parish Ad Hoc Committee Report

1. The committee consisted of Connie Cunningham of St. Benedict, Juanita Mollman and Ryan Charlton of St. Andrew, Dianne Goff and Denise Hood of St. Joseph – Lake Orion.
2. Dianne Goff explained that the committee was formed to deal with the PAV Together in Faith objective on a new parish. Concerns for a new parish were raised at St. Joseph – Lake Orion and St. Andrew. The committee was charged with determining the need and the requirements for a new parish, then reporting back to the VPC.
3. St. Andrew is landlocked and has no way to expand. St. Joseph will max out in the next five years, is losing its Associate Pastor, and has debt from its recent renovations.
4. The Department of Parish Life helps determine the locations of new parishes. Previously the auxiliary bishops determined the locations. The first new parish under the new system was in Davisburg. A parish needs 20 acres and parish and school need 40.
5. The major problem the committee discovered is that the area between the two parishes is hindered by a lack of roads, utilities, and fire suppression.
6. The process for establishing a new parish is:
 - a. Build a case.
 - b. Procure a priest to hold a weekly mass.
 - c. Set up a Mass Station with the Cardinal’s approval using the same priest & location.
 - d. Demonstrate weekly collection patterns.
 - e. Become a “Mission Church.”
 - f. Obtain 20 to 40 acres of land.
7. The challenges present are:
 - a. Finding a charismatic priest willing to establish a new parish.
 - b. Finding the core members from the St. Andrew and St. Joseph communities.
 - c. Finding the funding to cover the rent until the collection can cover it.

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New Parish Ad Hoc Committee Report, continued

8. The findings of the committee were:
 - a. There is limited land available and it is very expensive.
 - b. Township restrictions are very expensive to meet.
 - c. Utilities are severely limited in the area between the parishes.
 - d. The Michigan Dept. of Transportation has no plans for new roads in the area.
9. There was discussion of the feedback from the parish councils. Concerns included the role of the Archdiocese in the process. Cathy Wagner mentioned that Christ the Redeemer and the Davisburg parish were both developed from the ground up.
10. Fr. Jerry Brzezinski thanked the committee for its hard work. We have something to think about and revisit at future meetings. A real need will drive the new parish.
11. The committee didn't include recommendations so they will provide them in writing. Fr. Jerry asked the committee to be willing to be "on hold" to help with the process.

Upcoming Meetings

The meeting scheduled for September 24th at Christ the Redeemer is during the Priest's Convocation. The March, 2008 meeting is the day after Easter. The Executive Committee will review the calendar and make adjustments for these oversights.

PAV Budget for 2007-2008

1. Bob Krueger presented the PAV Budget for fiscal 2007-2008 (July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008). The Finance Committee reviewed the budget prepared by Paul Borucki, the PAV Business Manager. The Finance Committee operated under the VPC's instruction to budget at the same level as last year. The committee enacted reductions in several subsidies so there would be a slight decrease in the total amount of subsidies.
2. The VPC approved the budget as presented with Ryan Charlton abstaining because he wanted to review the budget with his pastor. Fr. Jerry mentioned that the pastors had seen the Subsidy Statement prior to the meeting.

VPC Roster

1. The names of the new VPC members are needed by May 21, 2007. Please have the new people at the June meeting so we can prepare them for the August meeting.
2. If the new members are at the May 21st meeting we can cancel the June meeting
3. Bob Krueger informed us that this is his last year on the VPC. We will need to replace him on the PAV VPC Finance Committee where Bob is the chair.

2007-2008 VPC Objectives – Hispanic Pastoral Assembly

Jacques Pasquier reported that seven of the parishes reported back on the Hispanic Pastoral Assembly. He passed out a handout summarizing the feedback.

Vicars' Meeting

Fr. Jerry reported the Vicars have not met because they were off for Easter. The roles of the county Catholic Social Service organizations will be discussed at future meetings. In Oakland County, for example, there are 60 parishes that contribute about \$10,000 to Catholic Social Services of Oakland County (CSSOC). CSSOC provides many services to the members of the Oakland County parishes.

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Closing Prayer

Art Seidler closed the meeting at 9:15 pm with the closing prayer.

Next Meeting

Monday, May 21, 2007 at 7:00 pm at St. John Fisher.

Know My Parish: St. John Fisher, Genesis Ministries, and Campus Ministry (T. Donahoo.)

Prayers and refreshments: St. John Fisher

Attendance:

Name	Attendance	Parish or Organization
Cathy Wagner	Present	AOD Department of Parish Life
Jan Lumetta	Present	Christ the Redeemer Christ the Redeemer
Rakhi Roy	Present	Genesis Ministries Oakland Comm. College Laurence Tech.
Tom Donahoo	Present	Pontiac Catholic Communities
Renee' St. Dennis	Present	Sacred Heart
Janet Dinsmoore	Present	Sacred Heart
Theresa Sayre	Absent	Sacred Heart
Bob Krueger	Present	St. Andrew
Ryan Charlton	Present	St. Andrew
Juanita Mollman	Present	St. Andrew
Connie Cunningham	Present	St. Benedict
Grace Imbrunone	Present	St. Benedict
Cathy Settle	Present	St. Benedict
Art Seidler	Present	St. Irenaeus
Ron Valade	Absent	St. Irenaeus
Fabiola Tonna	Absent	St. John Fisher
Fr. Jerry Brzezinski	Present	St. John Fisher
Jacques Pasquier	Present	St. John Fisher
Lew Elbert	Excused	St. John Fisher
Paul Borucki	Present	St. John Fisher
Steve Lawless	Present	St. Joseph – Lake Orion St. Joseph – Lake Orion
Dianne Goff	Present	St. Joseph – Lake Orion
Denise Hood	Present	St. Joseph – Lake Orion
Bill Travnik	Excused	St. Mary of the Hills
Terry Mike	Absent	St. Mary of the Hills
Dila Dusovic	Present	St. Paul Albanian
Fran Ivezaj	Absent	St. Paul Albanian