

**Pontiac Area Vicariate
Vicariate Pastoral Council Meeting
Monday, May 21, 2007 St. John Fisher Chapel**

Opening Prayer

Bill Travnik opened the meeting at 6:08 pm. Fabiola Tonna led the opening prayer.

Introductions and New Members

Carole Whitney of Sacred Heart, Kimberley Dodd of St. John Fisher, Kit Wojcik of St. Andrew, Luis Vasquez, Carmen and Frank Rodriguez of the Pontiac Catholic Community, and Bonnie Banaszek of St. Benedict, our new PMA Representative, were introduced

Minutes from the 04-23-07 VPC Meeting

Minutes from the 04-23-2007 meeting were approved.

“Know My Parish Reports”

1. Lew Elbert of St. John Fisher gave a “Know My Parish” report.
2. A video on Genesis Ministries was shown in Rakhi Roy’s absence.
3. 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?

2007-2008 PAV Objectives and Ad Hoc Committees

1. The following Ad Hoc Committees will be continuing or starting next year:
 - a. Identification and Coordination of Christian Service Activities
Jan Lumetta, Michael Goddard (co-chairs), Steve Lawless and Cathy Settle.
 - b. PAV Hispanic Pastoral Plan:
 1. ACTS Hispanic Component: ACTS PMA Team
 2. Implement the Hispanic Pastoral Plan
Bill Travnik (chair), Terry Mike, Carole Whitney, Dila Dusovic
 3. Integrate PAV and Pontiac Catholic Communities Hispanic Pastoral Plan
Santiago Fernandez (chair), Fr. Sean Sylvester, Jacques Pasquier, Renee’ St. Dennis
 - c. Youth and Young Adults
Chris Kozlowski (chair), Lynne Huff, Sr. Karen Hawver, Melanie Avila, Lourdes Smith, Deacon Anthony Morici
 - d. Lay Volunteer Training
ACTS PMA Team, Fr. Sean Sylvester, Santiago Fernandez and Maria Jimenez
 - e. Pastoral Care
Deacon Ron Rohlman (chair), Michael Harning (AOD), Megan LaMont (AOD), Lorraine Mordenski (Mercy Bellbrook), Joe Soncrant (St. Andrew), Deacon Ron Valade and Ann Suziedelis.
 - e. Communications
The VPC Executive Committee using the PAV Newsletter, monthly articles, the Priest’s “Mini Newsletter” and the PAV website.

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Priest/Pastor Shortage

1. Lew Elbert thanked the committee members for their efforts.
2. The questions raised from the PAV meeting in March led to a reworking of the committees report to provide specific action steps.
3. There are several points to keep in mind:
 - a. The AOD is encouraging our input into the process.
 - b. The size and dynamics of PAV limit the impact we can have.
 - c. There are many points to walk through.
 - d. A key thing to avoid is pastor burnout.
 - e. The four smallest PAV parishes could "affiliate."
4. A two page report was prepared for the AOD and passed out at our meeting.
5. Feedback illustrated parishes are in denial about the problem and the Parish Councils need to be the ones spreading the word to parishioners without panicking them.
6. The medium age for our religious priests is 67 and three priest younger than 70 went on disability retirement in the last month.

New Parish Ad Hoc Committee Report

1. Ryan Charlton thanked all of the committee members for all of their hard work.
2. There are two major issues that we have to face which stand out from the total of eight that the committee recommended.
3. The first is the economic situation in the area which the committee recommends that we hold off on moving forward until the situation settles down. The second issue is to build more collaboration with the AOD.

PAV Budget for 2007-2008

1. Paul Borucki reported that the PAV Budget for fiscal 2007-2008 (July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008) has been finalized. The AOD has asked for a copy.

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. Due to the number of new members here today, we canceled the June meeting

Vicars' Meeting

1. We need a chair for next year. The Chair guides the meeting and sits on the VPC Executive Committee. There are two people reflecting on this calling.
2. Fr. Jerry stated that the minutes from the Vicars' meeting were sent out.
3. The Called by Christ Stewardship Conferences are on June 14th and 21st.
4. The Archdiocese has started a program for certification of Business that has the approval of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. The first group of certified Business Managers will be selected and recognized in June.
5. Paul Lipard will be at the Parish Leadership Conferences this fall. St. Joseph – Lake Orion will be hosting one of the conferences as it has in the past.
6. The Council of Vicars' and the Presbyteral Council are considering merging.
7. PAV should be hearing from the Together in Faith Tracking Committee soon.
8. Fr. Jerry recognized the departing VPC members with Certificates of Appreciation.
9. We took a brief survey to gauge our feelings on our meetings and direction.

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Closing Prayer

Fabiola Tonna closed the meeting at 7:45 pm with the closing prayer.

Next Meeting

Monday, August 6, 2007 at 7:00 pm at St. Irenaeus.

Prayers and refreshments: St. Irenaeus

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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		Genesis Ministries Oakland Comm. College Laurence Tech.
Tom Donahoo		
Renee' St. Dennis	Present	Pontiac Catholic Community
Luis Vasquez	Present	Pontiac Catholic Community
Carmen Rodriguez	Present	Pontiac Catholic Community
Frank Rodriguez	Present	Pontiac Catholic Community
Janet Dinsmoore	Present	Sacred Heart
Carole Whitney	Present	Sacred Heart
Bob Krueger	Present	St. Andrew
Ryan Charlton	Present	St. Andrew
Kit Wojcik	Present	St. Andrew
Connie Cunningham	Present	St. Benedict
Cathy Settle	Present	St. Benedict
Art Seidler	Present	St. Irenaeus
Ron Valade	Present	St. Irenaeus
Fabiola Tonna	Present	St. John Fisher
Fr. Jerry Brzezinski	Present	St. John Fisher
Kimberly Dodd	Present	St. John Fisher
Jacques Pasquier	Present	St. John Fisher
Lew Elbert	Present	St. John Fisher
Paul Borucki	Present	St. John Fisher
Steve Lawless		St. Joseph – Lake Orion St. Joseph – Lake Orion
Bill Travnik	Present	St. Mary of the Hills
Terry Mike	Present	St. Mary of the Hills
Dila Dusovic	Present	St. Paul Albanian St. Paul Albanian