



**Vicariate Pastoral Council Minutes**  
**August 11, 2008**  
**Meeting held at St. John Fisher**

The meeting began at 7:00 PM with a prayer led by Dianne Bubnar.

**Welcome**

Fr. Jerry Brzezinski welcomed everyone to the first Vicariate Pastoral Council meeting of the year. He thanked them for their willingness to serve the Area Church and stressed how much the PAV can achieve when we all work together.

Everyone present introduced themselves, stating what parish or other group they represented and how long they have been on the VPC.

**PAV Guidelines Review**

Lew Elbert, Chair of the VPC last year, reviewed the *Guidelines and Operational Procedures* booklet. He explained what the Pontiac Area Vicariate is, its mission, membership, goals, and organization. The Vicariate Pastoral Council is comprised of representatives from every PAV parish along with several standing members/positions. Responsibilities and expectations of VPC members are detailed in the Guidelines booklet distributed to each Council member and available online at <http://pontiacarevicariate.org/vpc/vpcdocs.htm>.

Lew described other groups in the PAV and Archdiocese that interact with the VPC, including the Pastoral Ministers' Association (PMA) and the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council (APC). Fr. Jerry added that the basic structure of Vicariates is set by the Archdiocese of Detroit.

A brief introduction activity then took place. Four small groups were set up with one new Council member at each one and several returning members. This allowed time for questions and getting to know one another.

**PAV Pastoral Plan / Together in Faith**

Lew gave an overview and some history of the Together In Faith process and the development and implementation of the PAV Pastoral Plan. This has driven the work of the PAV since 2004, including the setting of priorities and objectives. Together In Faith is a five-year plan for the Archdiocese of Detroit. Parishes, schools and vicariates throughout the AOD have evaluated themselves and developed their own Pastoral Plans that fit into the larger strategic plan.

The PAV Pastoral Plan focuses on Sacramental, Strategic, Sustainable areas. Ten associated goals have been developed to implement the plan. These provide the foundation for the VPC's yearly objectives and committees. More information can be found on the PAV website under "Vicariate Pastoral Council."

**2008/2009 Vicariate Pastoral Council** – Fr. Jerry introduced the officers of the VPC for this year and said we are in need of a Vice-Chair. This person should be prepared to be the Chair next year. He urged anyone willing to take this role to contact him. The Council also needs a second representative to the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council to serve with Art Seidler.

VPC Chair Steve Lawless thanked Lew for his work on the Council. He reminded everyone of the advice of Bishop Flores at the April Regional Assembly, namely that God is doing you a favor in your service, not the other way around.

### Goals and Objectives for this year

Steve presented a detailed look at the goals that have been set by the Executive Committee for the coming year. He highlighted each ad hoc committee as well as the two standing committees and gave an overview of what is expected from them. Available committee assignments were filled by volunteers. Judy will distribute the revised document as soon as it is available. It will also be posted on the PAV website.

The ad hoc committees for the 2008-2009 Council are:

- Hispanic Ad-Hoc Committee
- Pastoral Care Ad-Hoc Committee
- Youth Ministry Ad-Hoc Committee
- VPC Executive Committee (standing committee)
- Fall Assembly Ad Hoc Committee
- Spring Assembly Ad Hoc Committee
- PAV Services Operations Committee (standing committee)

Judy explained some Council procedures including rotating hosting duties, communications, and the calendar for the year.

The meeting ended at 9:06 PM.

### Upcoming VPC Meetings

**Fall Assembly: October 6, 2008 at Sacred Heart of the Hills at 6:30 PM**

VPC Meetings: October 27, November 24, January 26, February 23

Spring Assembly March 23, 2009 at St. Benedict /Marist Academy Lower school

VPC Meetings: April 27, 2009, May 18, 2009

### Attendance

Cathy Wagner	Archdiocese of Detroit
Jan Lumetta	Christ the Redeemer Parish
Dale Youngpeter	Christ the Redeemer Parish
Rakhi Roy	Genesis Ministries
Bonnie Banaszek	Pastoral Ministers' Association
Paul Borucki	PAV Business Manager
Judy Gordon	PAV Administrative Assistant
Alex Jablonowski	PAV Chaplain
Janet Dinsmoore	Sacred Heart Parish
Dianne Bubnar	St. Andrew Parish
Kit Wojcik	St. Andrew Parish
Greg Peterson	St. Benedict Parish
Cathy Settle	St. Benedict Parish
Fr. Jerry Brzezinski	St. John Fisher Parish
Joe Pauwels	St. John Fisher Parish
Lew Elbert	St. John Fisher Parish
Dawy Gonzalez-Ruiz	St. John Fisher Parish
Steve Lawless	St. Joseph Parish
Terry Mike	St. Mary of the Hills
Jack Cashman	St. Mary of the Hills