



Vicariate Pastoral Council Minutes February 2, 2010 Meeting held at St. Mary of the Hills

The meeting began at 7:07 PM with an opening prayer called "God Is Glass," led by Dianne Bubnar. VPC Chair Denise Donaldson welcomed everyone and led introductions around the room.

Fundraising Presentation

Joe Stong, Vice President of Development for Guest House, gave a presentation on fundraising methods, practices, and trends. He stressed that any church fundraising effort must take into account human nature, divine nature and economics. Even though asking for money is essentially begging, it can also be considered "applied pastoral ministry." The fundraiser is offering the donor an opportunity to share what they have for a higher purpose.

One-on-one personal appeals are always the most effective, followed by small group meetings then larger groups. Personal contact allows for non-verbal cues to be recognized and responded to. Less effective are phone calls, direct mail, and email appeals. Thanking donors in the same way they were approached (personal, phone, etc.) is important as is making sure the donor feels appreciated and their gift valued.

Joe shared information on demographic trends that will impact fundraising for Catholic organizations in the coming years. The current generation that is approximately 70 years old and older has both the inclination and the ability to give generously. Baby boomers and those younger are plagued by wobbly finances, later marriage and childrearing, and issues with the Church. Young adults may have time and talent to donate now rather than money. Engaging them may create a sense of commitment and belonging that will hopefully last through their lives.

Current economic conditions affect fundraising everywhere in America. These macro trends -- the financial collapse, uncertain pension and health care in retirement, unemployment -- are magnified in Michigan. People react to the fear created by this turmoil by focusing on family, community, and church. At the end of the day, your treasure is other people.

Joe answered questions from the Council. He invited anyone who wishes to tour Guest House or ask specific questions on fundraising, to contact him at jstong@guesthouse.org.

Hispanic Gathering Survey Results

Joe Pauwels distributed the compiled results of surveys collected at the September Hispanic Gathering. Of the approximately 300 people who attended, 78 surveys were returned. The feedback confirmed that the gathering was a big success and enjoyed and appreciated by all who attended. Attendees came from almost every parish in the PAV as well as other parishes outside the vicariate. (The Survey Summary is included at the end of these minutes.)

The Council discussed what to do next with respect to Hispanic issues. Joe stated that the work of the VPC ad hoc committee was finished with the gathering in September but that the committee could meet again to generate new ideas. Fr. Stan asked them to meet before the next VPC meeting. Ideas to consider include having another Hispanic Gathering (where and when to be determined), continuing the ad hoc committee next year, and other liturgical and cultural ways to help build and support the Hispanic community.

Reports/Updates

Vicar's Report – Fr. Stan said that the Archdiocese is pushing to reduce printing and mailing costs by moving more communication to electronic methods. They are investigating common software that parishes can use as well as email and web communication. He said that Fr. Tim Hogan has been named the Regional Moderator for the Northeast Vicariate, replacing Bishop Daniel Flores in that position.

Finance Committee Report

PAV Business Manager Paul Borucki distributed a Financial History and Budget Report. He went over some of the information on the report which included the 2009 -10 PAV budget, and actual expenses and income through December 2009. A large sum in the LDP account (savings at the Archdiocese) is restricted since it was raised or allocated for specific purposes. Other funds (PAVAL sports, jail ministry, some CCRT donations) are “pass through” and are not part of the PAV budget. Paul stated that the PAV budget for next year needs to be developed soon so that it can be sent to pastors and included when they develop their 2010-2011 parish budgets.

Paul requested that each VPC member ask at their next parish council meeting if their parish is willing to pay the same subsidy for 2010 -11 that they are paying this year. A question was raised as to the amount each parish is currently paying, since that data was not on the report. Paul answered that the pastor and the business manager have that information. PAV subsidies are determined based on the CSA percentage assigned to each parish by the AOD. Paul did not have estimates available since he has been unable to get the current CSA numbers from the Archdiocese. Cathy Wagner said she would call the appropriate person and get the numbers to Paul. He will send out the spreadsheet with estimated PAV subsidies to all VPC members as soon as possible.

A large item in the PAV budget has been the Crittenton Hospital chaplain. We contributed to the salary and expenses of this chaplain in partnership with the Archdiocese, St. Andrew parish, and Beaumont Hospital. Cathy Wagner stated that the AOD will not be contributing any money for this in the future. Discussions are taking place with Beaumont to see if they will increase the amount they pay. Paul said this issue needs to be resolved before a budget can be finalized.

Other budget items that are unresolved include:

- The Oakland County jail chaplaincy will not receive any funding from the AOD in the future.
- The Catholic Community Response Team relies heavily on a Parish Empowerment Grant for salaries. They have not heard how much, if anything, they will get for next year.
- The Archdiocese will cover salaries and benefits for Genesis Ministries, but any expenses will need to come from somewhere else. For the last few years, five vicariates have been funding Genesis, but not all of them have actually paid their allocated amounts.

Service Operations Report – Dale Youngpeter said he is gathering metrics for the next PAV newsletter. He said that the recent ACTS training held in January at Christ the Redeemer was well attended and successful. He said 174 people in total have gone through the ACTS program. Dale explained to Charlie DeBoever, new young adult minister for Genesis Ministries, what kinds of metrics his committee would like from young adult programs offered through Genesis.

Spring Assembly on March 11 at St. Paul Albanian – Judy said that assembly invitations have been emailed to the PAV and flyers sent to all parishes. The North Macomb vicariate is also promoting the event. Capacity at St. Paul's is 700 people. Judy said online registration is available and being used. So far, sign-ups are coming in much faster than previous assemblies.

Archdiocesan Pastoral Council – Art summarized a recent article in the Michigan Catholic on the new APC. He stated that there will be a enhanced emphasis on Catholic schools as well as closer collaboration with Central Services.

Open Forum/Communications

- Fr. Stan is involved in an Expanding Marriage ministry. Training for sponsor couples will take place on April 16/17.
- Charlie said the Michigan Catholic Young Adult conference will take place in Lansing March 19-20. Scholarships are available for young adults. Information can be found at www.micyac.org.
- Dianne shared that the youth minister at St. Andrew has started a regular column in the parish bulletin called, “Youth You Should Know” highlighting parish teens.
- St. Andrew will have a Soup Supper on February 19. Dinner at 6 PM followed by a speaker at 7 PM.

The meeting ended at 9:10 PM.

Upcoming VPC Meetings

VPC Meetings: March 2, 2010 at St. Mary of the Hills, 7:00 PM
 May 4, 2010
 Spring Assembly - March 11, 2010 at St. Paul Albanian

Attendance

Cathy Wagner	Archdiocese of Detroit
Jan Lumetta	Christ the Redeemer
Dale Youngpeter	Christ the Redeemer
Charlie DeBoever	Genesis Ministries
Judy Gordon	PAV Administrative Assistant
Paul Borucki	PAV Business Manager
Janet Dinsmoore	Sacred Heart of the Hills
Dianne Bubnar	St. Andrew
Kit Wojcik	St. Andrew
Cathy Settle	St. Benedict
Alejandra Barnes	St. Damien
Art Seidler	St. Irenaeus
Denise Donaldson	St. Joseph
Mark Joyce	St. Mary of the Hills
Fr. Stan Ulman	Vicar
Dila Dusovic	St. Paul Albanian
Joe Pauwels	St. John Fisher
Joe Stong	Guest House

PAV Hispanic Gathering Survey Summary

Approximately **300** people attended gathering at St. Mary of the Hills on September 6, 2009
78 surveys were at least partially completed. Results are as follows:

Male: **23** Female: **55**
Age: 20-30 **7** 30-40 **23** 40-50 **19** 50-60 **6** 60+ **8**
Native Country: Mexico **50** Puerto Rico **4** U.S. **7** Central/South America **6**

Catholic? Yes **74** No **1** Go to church regularly? Yes **68** No **7**

Belong to a parish? Yes **58** No **10**

Parish: St Damien of Molokai **23**
 St Andrew **13**
 St. Irenaeus **3**
 St. Mary of the Hills **5**
 Sacred Heart **4**
 St. John Fisher **1**
 St. Joseph **1**
 Other – outside Vicariate **13** (St Dennis, St. Daniels, Shrine, St Ephrem, etc.)

How far are you willing to travel to attend church services (miles)?

1	2	7	2
2	2	10	15
3	5	13	1
4	2	15	6
5	7	20	6
6	1	30	1

What, if anything, can your parish do to make you feel more welcome?

Use of Spanish language: **38** Meetings/Gatherings: **28** Personal contact: **15**
Other: Church closer to home **1**
 Job postings **1**
 Activities for kids during Mass **1**
 More involvement with Spanish speaking people **2**
 Gather after Mass to share treats and socialize **1**
 Welcome at church door **1**
 We felt very welcome by Fr. Jerry at SJF **1**

What Vicariate activities are you aware of?

CCRT **3** Youth Ministries **12** Religious Education **1** “MFC” **2** Bible Study in Spanish **5**

What, if anything, do you need help with?

Food **3** Transportation **5** Housing **1** Language **12** Recreation Facilities **3**
Employment **5**
Other: More meetings in Spanish **1**
 More activities to unite Spanish speaking people **1**

**PAV Hispanic Gathering
Survey Summary (continued)**

Was this event worthwhile? Very Worthwhile **64** Worthwhile **9**

Where did you hear about this event?

E-mail **8**
Flyer **4**
Family/Friend **27**
Bulletin **25**
Alejandra **2**

What did you like about this event?

Mass **6**
Bi-lingual **5**
Togetherness **3**
Families gathering **1**
In Spanish **8**
Music/Singing **2**
Able to meet other Hispanic people **5**
Hispanic pride **1**
The church **1**
Everything **2**
Information **1**
Bishop Flores **2**

Wonderful to see that the Spanish speaking cultures heard the call of the Vicariate to get together **1**

The beginning of more Hispanic activities in the Vicariate **1**

What should we do differently to make the event better?

Nothing – good as is **5**
Provide more information **4**
More/better publicity **4**
Vicariate information in writing **1**
Invite more people **1**
Do it weekly or more often **2**
Information before food **1**
All in Spanish **2**
Earlier **1**
More organization **1**
Have a directory to invite the community to the events **1**

If we held an event like this again, would you attend? Yes **72** Maybe **1** No **0**