



Pastoral Care of the Sick Implementation Committee

Pontiac Area Vicariate
June 2010-January 2011



Who are we?

- Our team purpose is to use our knowledge of the vicariate and insights gained from the Pastoral Care of the Sick Study
- to advance the implementation of the Vicariate Pastoral Care of the Sick plan,
- so that the People of God will grow in understanding of and participation in pastoral care of the sick, both as recipients and as co-ministers,
- and will receive timely, compassionate pastoral care in times of illness.
- *Mary Martin, St. Joseph Parish; Kathy Hasty, St. Joseph Parish; Maria Jiminez, St. Damien Parish, Joyce Hyttinen, Archdiocese of Detroit, Fr. Stan Ulman, PAV Vicar, Dale Youngpeter, VPC or another VPC delegate*



Where we have been

- Pastoral Care of the Sick as a goal for the PAV
- One year study of Pastoral Care of the Sick- including assessment from hospitals, nursing homes and people in the pews
- List of recommendations was generated
 - More opportunities to receive the Sacrament of the Sick in parishes
 - Pastoral letter and continued catechesis
 - Networking between parishes
 - Address the gaps by providing priests as needed, lay ministers for pastoral visits to hospitals and sharing this equitably in the vicariate



Where we have been

- One year term Deacon Alex was assigned to oversee the initiative
- Some progress
 - Pastoral letter was written and distributed
 - Resources and materials prepared and distributed to hospitals for use
 - Area on the web site was developed as a resource
 - Communal Anointing schedule on the web



Where we are headed

- This committee would like to offer a 6 month effort to re-engage the efforts of the Vicariate toward a comprehensive Pastoral Care of the Sick model
- Target audiences to include:
 - people in the pew who will receive the pastoral care and Sacrament of the Sick
 - Lay volunteers who can be ministers to hospitals
 - Professional ministers and chaplains who can assist in the coordination and training



What the committee can commit to

- Facilitation of more efficient delivery of pastoral care to the sick in the vicariate, particularly in hospitals
- Facilitation of more equitable sharing of pastoral care of the sick by vicariate parishes
- Assist in education and catechesis of the laity on all aspects of pastoral care of the sick
- Aid the development and ongoing formation of volunteer lay pastoral care ministers
- Improved networking and cooperation between hospital chaplains and pastoral care ministers in their care of the sick



What the committee can commit to

- **Facilitation of more efficient delivery of pastoral care to the sick in the vicariate, particularly in hospitals;**
 - Identify procedure for accessing needed pastoral care in each of the four vicariate hospitals
 - Communicate to hospitals and parishes the process identified by vicar and vicariate priests for handling emergency requests for anointing
 - Encourage parishes to bolster ranks of pastoral care ministers to visit the sick in hospitals and other settings
 - Assess needs in the four hospitals and our present resources to meet them
 - Regularly schedule communal anointings throughout the vicariate, offered on a staggered, coordinated schedule and communicated to laity



What the committee can commit to

- **Facilitation of more equitable sharing of pastoral care of the sick by vicariate parishes;**
 - Identify underserved hospitals and their needs, and overburdened parishes, and ways to address these needs as a vicariate
 - Create a master list of parishes and the pastoral care services each provides to the various hospitals in the vicariate
 - Develop a regular, staggered/coordinated schedule of communal anointings in parishes and possibly hospitals



What the committee can commit to

- **Assist in education and catechesis of the laity on all aspects of pastoral care of the sick**
 - Continue to educate laity about Sacrament of Anointing
 - Provide catechesis about Viaticum, prayers for the dying and the deceased, etc.
 - Provide increased opportunities for persons to experience anointing, recognizing that experience is a powerful form of catechesis



What the committee can commit to

- **Aid the development and ongoing formation of volunteer lay pastoral care ministers**
 - Identify training needs of lay pastoral care ministers, both initial and ongoing, and resources for this
 - Provide vicariate-sponsored annual formation/reflection day for current lay pastoral care ministers to the sick
 - Encourage recruitment and training of lay pastoral care ministers from under-represented gender and ethnic groups



What the committee can commit to

- **Improved networking and cooperation between hospital chaplains and pastoral care ministers in their care of the sick.**
 - Begin an intentional process of dialogue with hospital chaplains in the 4 vicariate hospitals
 - Build relationships and networking between chaplains and PMA ministers
 - Build and nurture relationships and networking between parish lay pastoral care ministers and hospital chaplains



What the committee can commit to

- **Evaluation of work done by this committee and recommendations/planning for continuation of areas that will need ongoing monitoring and/or further development (e.g., tracking of statistics, addressing needs of nursing homes/assisted living centers, etc.)**
- **All to be completed by January 2011, with responsibility handed over to a continuation committee or designated person(s) at that time.**
- **This may require an ongoing paid person to coordinate this effort on a continuing basis**