

THE DRIFT

Blue Water Vicariate News

A NOTE FROM THE VICAR

As we enter the year of our Lord 2007, we pray for God's continued guidance of us as members of the Church, our family of faith on earth. In light of the multitude of challenges and issues facing us today, may we remain steadfast in our commitment to carry out God's will and proclaim the Good News to those who have yet to hear it. In particular, we ask for the Holy Spirit's guidance upon the Church of the Archdiocese of Detroit as we make the tough decisions and changes necessary to continue to be a vibrant beacon of faith, hope, and love in the world. May we see beyond our own comforts and fears when the changes called for affect us personally.

I offer a reminder that all persons who have unsupervised access to minors in a paid or non paid position in the Church are required to participate in the three hour Protecting God's Children seminar. These gatherings are led by trained facilitators and are geared to establishing an informed understanding of the reality of child sexual abuse. If you need to attend this seminar and haven't yet done so, please contact your local parish or look on the archdiocesan website (www.aodonline.org) for the nearest next offered program. Hopefully, in time we can together end the fear of young people being hurt or taken advantage of within the life and ministry of the Church.

Recently, parishes and vicariates were sent posters with photos and brief bios of the local men who are currently studying for the priesthood at Sacred Heart Major Seminary. These posters are meant to be displayed in churches, schools, and other parish buildings so that we can come to know a little better who our seminarians are. You are invited to pray for them by name, send them a letter of encouragement, or even to sponsor a seminarian to help with some of his educational expenses. Contact your local parish for more information, or Sacred Heart Major Seminary at 313-883-8500. Our men who are discerning God's call need our support and care!

Also, when is the last time that you invited someone to consider the call to priesthood or religious life in the Church? Young people today find it very difficult to say "yes" to God without the support and encouragement of all us!

100TH ANNIVERSARY

St. Mary's Parish, St. Clair, Michigan is celebrating the 100th anniversary of St. Mary's School on Saturday, May 5, 2007. The celebration begins at the 5:30 p.m. Mass that day and continues with dinner in the school following Mass.

Please call St. Mary's School at 810-329-4150 for reservations. Alumni are asked to call or email their current address to bloomin@tir.com

Also, St. Mary's School will be having its annual auction on Saturday, February 10, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. Evening includes "Taste of Local Restaurants", cash bar, live and silent auctions and raffles. Tickets are \$25 and are available by calling 810-329-4150.

PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY

A two-week pilgrimage/retreat focusing on the five wounds of Jesus as shown in the lives of Sts. Francis of Assisi and Padre Pio. We will spend 4 days in Assisi, 3 days in Rome, and 2 days in San Giovanni Rotondo. Led by Fr. Bernie Owens, S.J. June 13-28, 2007. Cost: \$3799 double occupancy. Call Manresa Jesuit Retreat House for more info. 248-644-4933, ext. 10.

BLUE WATER VICARIATE

Vicar

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Next newsletter issue: March 18, 2007
Article deadline: March 2, 2007
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PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

As required by the Archdiocese of Detroit, the table below indicates the vicariate's parish and school participation in the program "Protecting God's Children" as of October 28, 2006.

LOCATION	TOTAL PARTICIPANTS
All Saints, Memphis	81
Cardinal Mooney High School	20
Holy Cross Parish & School, Marine City	197
Holy Rosary Mission, Columbus	10
Immaculate Conception Parish & School, Anchorville	143
McCormick Academy/High School	12
Our Lady of Guadalupe Mission	1
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Emmett	35
Sacred Heart, Yale	7
St. Augustine Parish & School, Richmond	340
St. Catherine of Alexandria, Algonac	23
St. Christopher, Marysville	60
St. Edward on the Lake Parish & School	27
St. Joseph, Port Huron	18
St. Mark, Harsens Island	7
St. Mary Parish & School, St. Clair	114
St. Mary Parish & School, Port Huron	53
St. Mary Queen of Creation, New Baltimore	202
St. Philip Neri, Columbus	41
St. Stephen, Port Huron	14

CALL OF THE CATHOLIC CAUCUS

A non-partisan advocacy group seeking economic justice for all in light of the Gospels and Catholic Social Teachings Bulletin inserts are provided for each Sunday on the Resource the Blue Water Vicariate Interim Website, www.holycrossonline.net/Parish/Vicariate/SocialJustice

Next Meeting, 10am, Monday, January 22, 2007, St. James Church Community Center, Woodward Ave. at Pearson, between 8 Mile & 9 Mile Rds., Ferndale.

RELAXATION SATURDAY

Information and products including, but not limited to reflexology, chiropractic medicine, home health care, stress-relieving exercise, and more. Saturday, January 27, 2007 at St. Catherine's Activity Center.

Contact Jan Long, 810-794-5751 or janlongcpr@yahoo.com for more info.

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