

Blue Water Vicariate Pastoral Council Meeting  
All Saints, Memphis  
April 9, 2008

Craig LaDuke called the meeting to order at 7:14

Fr. David led us in prayer. We went around the table and introduced ourselves to our new member Gerry St. John. Gerry was on VPC in the past and is rejoining us representing St. Augustine.

Present: Present: Vicar -Fr. David Burgard; Cardinal Mooney - Craig LaDuke; Holy Family – Catherine Wullaert; Holy Trinity – Elwood Brown, Mercedes Fox & Mary Suarez; Immaculate Conception – Amy O’Gara; Our Lady on the River - Jeremy Burke, Roberta Ivan, Catherine Nutter & Sandy McNeely; St. Augustine – Susan Thomas & Gerry St. John; St. Edward on the Lake – Hank & Sarah Rutkowski; St. Mary in St. Clair – Fred Kilcline; St. Mary in Port Huron – Garry Isaacson & Cindy Platzer; St. Mary Queen of Creation Larry Paczkowski; DRE’s-Mary Shoudy; Blue Water Principals – Helen Casper; AOD Facilitator – Lory McGlennen and Vicariate Secretary – Debie Hauer.

March’s minutes were approved with one spelling correction.

**APC**

The main discussion at the last APC was the Poverty and Racism document that the Vicars discussed last month. Larry submitted the entire minutes from the meeting and they are attached to our minutes.

**DRES**

The DRE’s meet tomorrow. They are offering Catechetical Topic #7 on Tuesday April 22, 2008 at The Neuman Center in Port Huron. The time is 7 to 9 pm. Lucy Sebastian from Holy Family will present the topic and it is free to members of the Blue Water Vicariate.

Protecting God’s Children will be offered at St. Mary in Port Huron on May 15<sup>th</sup> from 6 to 9 pm. Register on line. Go to [aodonline.org](http://aodonline.org) and there is a link. Or call Mary Shoudy at 810-982-7906 ext # 102 and she will register you.

**PRINCIPALS**

Helen said that the principals have not met. The next meeting is April 25<sup>th</sup> at Immaculate Conception. They also have an Archdiocesan meeting on April 17, 2008 which is mandatory. The meeting is on the new catechetical certification process.

A subcommittee met with Fr. David and Fr. Joe Esper on the Schools Support Agreement for vicariate parishes. This year will be the first year the 2 parts of the old vicariate (Port Huron and Belle River) will be under one agreement. Projections are that each school will receive \$22,000 in support and CMHS double that.

Some of the paperwork required for each school is:

The "Active Parish Verification" form to document parish registration, envelope holder and Mass attendance of those asking for the vicariate tuition rate.

And

A viability form for each school to be sent to the vicar each October with information on the school's Catholic identity, enrollment, academics, etc to assure supporting parishes their financial support is not being wasted.

### **YOUTH MINISTRY**

Call to Serve is an off-shoot from Protecting God's Children, and is directed to youth under age 18 who are involved in ministry of any kind. This workshop is mandatory. The next dates for this workshop is June 19th from 10AM-1:30PM at St Joseph (contact Lucy Sebastian 810-982-2343) and October 18th at St Augustine from 8:30-noon, (contact Tina Kavolcik 586-727-9290).

St Mary in St Clair is hosting the NET Retreat again this year. This event is for youth, 7th through 12th grades. May 4th from 4-9PM. The cost is \$5.00 per person. The afternoon includes Uplifting prayer, fun games, funny skits moving drama and ends with Sunday Mass. Families are invited to Mass with the kids. Please call Theresa Barrons (810-329-0952) or your parish DRE by April 28th.

Timothy Awards is a recognition banquet to honor high school students who are involved in ministry. The banquet is on April 20th at St Therese of LeSioux. This will be the first year that Blue Water Vicariate is involved in this activity, and we will be represented by 5 parishes.

### **YOUNG ADULTS**

HOLY GROUNDS the traveling coffee house is coming to St. Mar Queen of Creation on Friday April 11, 2008.

### **CARDINAL MOONEY**

Cardinal Mooney will be breaking ground on their addition this summer. Seventh graders from the Blue Water Vicariate are visiting the week of April 14<sup>th</sup>. They will attend special classes prepared especially for them.

**Currently all seniors have been accepted to the college/university of their choice.**

### **CHRISTIAN SERVICE**

No Report

## **ADULT FORMATION**

As reported under the DRE category Catechetical Topic #7 will be offered on Tuesday April 22, 2008 at The Neuman Center in Port Huron. The time is 7 to 9 pm. Lucy Sebastian from Holy Family will present the topic and it is free to members of the Blue Water Vicariate

## **SUB COMMITTEES:**

**MULTICULTURAL/CHRISTIAN SERVICE** - Presentation about the Hispanic Pastoral Plan:

We will have this presentation on May 7<sup>th</sup> on our VPC meeting night. Santaigo Fernandez will come and present it. It will take about one and a half hours. Then we can stay and have our meeting.

Other Vicariates have had this presentation. The Goals and Objectives they have identified can be adapted for us.

The Presentation is about how Together in Faith and The Hispanic Pastoral Plan is intertwined.

Fr. David suggested that he hand out information at the Vicariate Clergy Meeting on Tuesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>.

The goal is to have The VPC and the Pastors, Parish Councils and commissions for each Blue Water Parish attend this presentation. We need people to come early and help set up. Everyone is to bring an appetizer. Holy Family will supply the drinks and paper products.

## **STEWARDSHIP**

Lory brought a binder with an intensive Stewardship Plan– Called by Christ, Gifted by the Spirit. This material had been given to the Pastors previously. This program runs in correlation with the Sunday readings. There is a timetable to follow for the best result.

In other Vicariates this has been a wonderful experience which has brought the parishes together and now they are working on other things together.

We would start by having Fr. David discuss with fellow Priests at the Vicariate Clergy meeting. Then we need to discuss the logistics of what, where and when for having a large gathering to inform the parishes how the program works. We would make a flyer to hand out to get people excited about the program. Parishes could decide if they want to commit to year long program or just pick some of the ideas.

Cardinal Maida has approved this plan and the Archdiocese recommended it.

All we can do is educate and encourage people and this is a first step of education about Stewardship.

A discussion about Stewardship ensued.

Craig asked if this idea is a result of the things our Stewardship Sub Committee discussed. Lory said it is.

Jeremy asked “What is Stewardship?” Fr. David explained that Stewardship correlates to the level of ones faith and discipleship. It is not just about finances. Time, Talent and Treasure has been the saying. It is even broader than that. I give because every thing is a gift from God and I am just taking care of it. Stewardship is about who I am not just about what I do.

Garry Isaacson shared that at his parish Stewardship is about money and nothing more. “Something needs to be done to broaden peoples idea of Stewardship”. Lory explained that this program is about educating Parish Leadership. Broad discussion followed. All agreed that we should pursue this program. Fr. David agreed to take the initial info to the Clergy meeting on April 15<sup>th</sup>. Lory said that the printed material is provided and someone from the development department would come for free. The large meeting of all Parishes needs to happen in the beginning of September 2008. Lory will tell the development department that our Priests are discussing and we should hear by May 7, 2008 if we are going forward.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Comcast: Lory said all material has been forwarded to Ned McGrath. Conversations are happening at the MCC level. We have communicated the concerns to who we needed to communicate them to. We are waiting to see what can be done.

### **OPEN FORUM**

Lory asked Fr. David about nominations for next year. We tabled that task for now.

Our Lady of Charity Icon is traveling around our area. Contact you Knights of Columbus if your Parish is interested in borrowing the Icon.

Pastors received invitations to extend for the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Arch Diocese. If anyone would like to come dressed in native dress to the Cathedral on Sunday May 18<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm.

Our Lady of Guadalupe will be celebrating Cinco de Mayo. On May 2<sup>nd</sup> they are having a dinner from 4 to 7 pm. On May 3<sup>rd</sup> they are having a celebration starting at noon. It will include a guest speaker and a band that starts playing at 8pm.

## **VICAR'S COMMENTS**

Fr. David will no longer be in our Vicariate. Starting July 1<sup>st</sup> he will be assigned to St. Mary in Wayne. St. Mary is part of the Western Wayne Vicariate.

On April 29, 2008 Bishop Boyea starts in the Lansing Diocese. Bishop Flores will be the responsible Bishop for the Thumb, Blue Water, North Macomb and Pontiac Area and South West vicariate for the time being.

Fr. handed our information about the Regional Assembly. Tuesday, April 29, 2008 6:30 PM Light supper 7:00-9:00 PM Program St. Paul Albanian Parish, 525 W. Auburn Road, Rochester Hills , MI

Next meeting is Wednesday May 7<sup>th</sup>. Everyone is to bring an appetizer.