

Blue Water Vicariate Pastoral Council Meeting  
Holy Family, Memphis  
March 10, 2010

**Present:**

Vicar – Fr. Joe Horn  
Holy Family – John Mastej  
Holy Trinity – Sandy Chapman  
Immaculate Conception – Amy O’Gara  
Our Lady on the River – Roberta Ivan & Catherine Nutter  
St. Augustine – Gerard Szczerbinski  
St. Mary, St. Clair – Fred Kilcline  
St. Mary Queen of Creation – Larry Paczkowski (APC)  
St. Mary, St. Clair – Fred Kilcline  
DRE’s – Tina Kovalcik  
Principals – Rachael Becker  
Hispanic Ministry – Lucy Sabastian  
Young Adult/Campus Minister – Eric Coules  
Youth Ministry – Deanna White  
Vicariate Secretary – Debie Hauer

**Excused:**

AOD Facilitator – Lory McGlennen  
Cardinal Mooney – Bruce Beaton  
St. Augustine – Gerry St. John  
Christian Service-Deacon John Connors

**Absent:**

Holy Family (APC) - Doug Fournier  
Holy Trinity – Sharon Bender  
St. Mary, Port Huron – Garry Isaacson  
St. Edward – Hank Rutkowski & Sarah Rutkowski  
St. Mary, N.B. – Rick Warick

**Visitors:**

AOD Evang/Catechesis – Margie Cooks  
AOD Ministerial Certification – Sally McCuen

Gerard Szczerbinski brought the meeting to order at 7:20pm.

Lucy led us in the Prayer and Reflection

“Reflection on the Reading for the Fourth Sunday of Lent”

Gerard asked for approval of the February minutes.

Amy stated that in the section **Open Forum** it should not say that Amy and John explained that the checks sent to CTM last year were to help with start up. Just John had answered that question.

With that clarification the minutes were approved.

## **REPORTS: QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

### **APC**

No Report – waiting for restructuring of APC to be completed.

### **DRE**

No Questions

### **PRINCIPAL**

Lucy asked about a tuition increase for next year. Rachael answered that the figures have not been released yet. She hopes to bring that to us next meeting. Gerrard asked if she would bring the fees also. Rachael said yes. Lucy asked if it is the same across the board. In other words are the fees the same at each school. Rachael answered that all of the schools have a registration, transportation fee and a book fee.

### **YOUTH MINISTRY**

Deanna handed out her report which will be included in the file with these minutes. She thanked the Blue Water Vicariate for funding the net retreat. Many more kids were able to attend because it was free. About 100 youth attended. A good number of those teens are home schooled which shows the Youth Ministers are doing a good job advertising.

### **CAMPUS/YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY**

Eric made one addition to his report. The North and Center Macomb Vicariates are on board with the Campus/Young Adult Ministry budget. The SURF vicariate does not have anything budgeted for the 2009/2010 year. Eric is trying to meet with the vicar from SURF. Fr. Joe just spoke with Fr. Bill from SURF. They sold a lot of property and have money. They need to be challenged too.

Lucy asked about Theology on Tap venues. Eric said he likes Marysville because it is centrally located. The plan is to start the evening at a bar and end with Mass at St. Christopher if Fr. Art approves.

Eric assured us that he will contact SURF Vicariate regarding their portion of the budget. He is trying to figure out the best way to bill the four separate vicariates. Fr. Joe will speak with the other vicars.

Eric said the Web Site will cost \$2000.00 which sounded high to the VPC. Amy, who is our web site administrator, said that is the going rate. She would be willing to do it for a lot less. Fr. Joe asked if Eric would discuss the possibility of Amy doing it with her. Eric said this will actually be 5 web sites, one for each vicariate and one general one. Roberta asked if that meant that whoever does one needs to do them all. Eric said yes it does and Amy said she is willing. She just asked that her business name will have some small recognition on the page.

## **CARDINAL MOONEY**

Report submitted

## **HISPANIC MINISTRY**

Lucy stated that there is nothing to report since Bishop Flores went back to Texas not much has happened for Hispanic Ministry.

Margie Crooks from the Archdiocese spoke to this. She said that Fernando Perales is the coordinator for Hispanic Ministry. He is in meetings to get things moving.

## **VICAR**

### **Presbyteral Council meeting**

At the last Presbyteral Council meeting most of the discussion was about finances. There is a significant percent of parishes not turning in their financial report. This is cause for a great loss of revenue to the LDP (Loan Deposit Program)

The parish assessment will be going from 6% to 7%. This represents an increase of 1%. The Archdiocese CSA goal is frozen but parish goals might not be frozen and could be raised.

The 2011 convocation will be October 9-13, 2011.

The Archdiocese will be asking for financial information from EVERY parish. They hope to help the priests be aware of their financial health and be called to accountability for their debt.

There was discussion about taking a serious look at the health of our schools. We need to take a tough look at when a school should be closed. Our vicariate has a committee for this.

Fred asked when the 7% assessment will start and Fr. Joe said probably July 1, 2010.

Fred asked how our parishes are doing financially. Fr. Joe said Archbishop Vigneron is thinking outside the box to see how we can all stretch our funds. No one from our vicariate has expressed being in dire straights financially yet.

Margie said the Archdiocese is no longer giving schools lump sums of money. They are giving money to schools a bit at a time as needed instead. The school must have more accountability. Phase two of Together in Faith will look at criteria.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Vicariate Budget**

The proposed budget for 2009/2010 was handed out. Fr. Joe will take it to the clergy at the April meeting for their approval.

For the 2010-2011 budget every segment that will receive vicariate funds needs to submit a budget request for next year by the April clergy/all staff meeting which is April 13, 2010. Tina requested the last four years DRE budgets but Debie said that it would be very difficult because individual accounts were not kept in the past. They will be kept from now on. Lucy said that Jane Petitpren might have that information. Debie said she will ask her.

Career Transition Ministry had submitted a budget request but John was told that they need to submit something more detailed a line by line request and explanation. Two thirds of the money that is in our account will be submitted to the LDP where it will make interest and we can get it back if needed.

**Other old business**

Tina asked what we are doing about parish partners. Fr. Joe answered that the priests have been talking about it but nothing on paper yet. The priests are not satisfied with the reason for doing this. We will table this discussion indefinitely.

Amy asked about the procedure to nominate a teen for a Timothy award. She was told to ask the parish Youth Minister.

Lucy asked about the notice in the February minutes about requesting to be put on the agenda two weeks in advance. She was concerned about any unforeseen emergencies that may come up. Fr. Joe assured her that there is some “wobble room” for emergencies.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Reestablish Sub Committees**

There were three sub committees to address the needs determined by the “Together in Faith” process: Stewardship, Multi Cultural/Social Justice and Youth/Young Adult. It was suggested by a few members that we table this until May to see what happens with Phase II of Together in Faith. We have a consensus to table this till the May meeting.

**John Mastej’s presentation on Catholic Business Pages**

Detailed information was handed out to all members and is included in this file.

Basically, Catholic Business Pages is a Web site designed for advertising Catholic businesses. The Parish or School gets businesses to sign up and gets funds for every one they sign up. Every one is asked to please take this information back to your Parish Council and see if your parish is interested.

The meeting was closed with a prayer and adjourned at 9:15.

The next meeting is May 12, 2010

Hospitality will be provided by St. Mary St. Clair

Respectfully submitted by Debie Hauer