

Meeting of the Social Justice/Multicultural Committee of the Blue Water Vicariate of the Archdiocese of Detroit
Thursday, April 19, 2007 3 pm Our Lady of Guadalupe

Present: Sister Barbara, Our Lady of Guadalupe Mission, Gretchen Forrester, Holy Cross Parish, Barbara Susan, Holy Cross Parish, Hank and Sarah Rutkowski, St. Edwards

Not Present: Mary Suarez, OLG, Mercedes Fox OLG, Sharon Bender, OLG

Handouts: Litany for Peace; Minutes 03/22/07 Meeting; Agenda

I Opening Prayer

Barbara opened the meeting at 3:22 pm. Litany for Peace read responsively with Sarah as leader

II. Approval of Agenda

Correction to Reports – Vicariate Meeting – Sarah Rutkowski. Approved.

III Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve minutes by Gretchen; seconded by Sarah. Approved.

IV Reports

A. Cover the Uninsured – Barbara

Handout from OLR read into the minutes (OLR campaign to raise money and toiletries for The Peoples' Clinic, who share this building with OLG – Barbara gave this handout to The Peoples' Clinic before this meeting) ; general discussion about the week; Barbara is planning to attend the Kick-off Press and Luncheon on April 23; Campaign is informational, to raise awareness of the problem ; Some states mandate insurance for all of their peoples

B. Vicariate Meeting – Sarah

Note: Sister Barbara will attend the next vicariate meeting

Requests from Lori McGlennen

Archdiocese of Detroit, Parish life and services

Lori asked us to “consider” narrowing our scope to Blue Water Vicariate Social Outreach Services

Blue Water Vicariate Social Outreach Survey

1. Distribute survey to Christian Service and Social Justice Committees
2. Get the results
3. Take the results to our vicar, Fr. David, via his secretary, before the May 9 Vicariate meeting
4. Fr. David's secretary will collate results
5. Fr. David's secretary will send collated results sent to Lori McGlennen, who will map these results for the June Vicariate meeting
6. Our task is to examine the results, study the distribution of the services, and see how we can work with individual parishes to achieve their goals

Lori also suggested that we contact Joyce Hyttinen, director of Catholic Social Action, 313-237-5934
Legislative Advocacy Network which incorporates legislative social justice

Joyce would like 3 or 4 people to be added to her distribution list (added to the Legislative Advocacy Network).
These people would receive material about social needs in the diocese every month

Lori also suggested that we use \$500 in our budget to sponsor an event that comes from this BWV Social Outreach Services Survey.

Sister Barbara will mail the survey with instructions to all the Christian Service Reps and Social Justice Reps. Barbara took surveys for the three locations of Our Lady on the River Parish. Instructions are that the survey comes from the Archdiocesan office, requesting that the results be mailed to OLG by May 1. Sister Barbara will mail to Father David.

We are merging Christian Service and Social Justice Committees. Sister will copy all on the letter she sends with instructions. Sister Barbara, Gretchen and Barbara have volunteered to be part of the Legislative Advocacy Network. Barbara will get the names/email addresses to Joyce H.

C Immigration Legislation – Gretchen (Gretchen deferred to Sister Barbara to lead this discussion)

a. Sister distributed an article from American Friends Service Committee, “Pending Immigration Legislation in Congress” which is a summary of all bills

b. Justice for Newcomers, A Catholic Call for Solidarity and Reform; Catholic Charities 2005 Policy Paper (get from the internet)

- Welcoming Christ in the Immigrant
- Catholic Social Teaching on Migration
- USCCB Migration and Refugee Services

Action: Sister and Gretchen will look up details on these acts, When and where they will be discussed Find out the which ones the USCCB support. Gretchen will write a summary article for May church bulletins

B. Meeting with St. Mary’s MOSES group

Pat from St. Mary’s Port Huron called Sister Barbara. MOSES group at St. Mary’s started by Fr. Gagnon Deals with local issues; not sure if it is ecumenical; know that it is very Catholic. Barbara will look at the MOSES internet site for more information. Sister Barbara said that we should invite them to join us; members of this committee agreed. Sister Barbara will discuss with Pat who is very enthusiastic and make the recommendation that they come to our meetings at OLG.

C. Darfur – more handouts from Barbara

Barbara is planning to email all of the handouts on the Campaign to Stop Genocides in Darfur

V Decisions

A. Bulletin Articles:

Sister showed handouts that she had been mailing to the parish bulletin editors for once a month inclusion in the bulletins. Barbara agreed to help get in the bulletins; asked Sister to email these articles to her

B. MOSES group – see above

C. Others – Earth Day

Barbara handed out an article from an internet group “Faith in America,” an Episcopal based ecumenical group to which she belongs. This handout will also be sent to the BWV webmaster to put on the website.

VI Announcements

VII New Business

VIII Next Meeting

May 24, 2007, 3 pm Our Lady of Guadalupe with end of the year dinner following the meeting
Meeting adjourned 4:55 p.m.

Misc – Barbara asked Sister to consider selling products at Marine City Maritime Days next year.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Susan, Recording Secretary