

## **Blue Water Vicariate Pastoral Council Meeting**

November 7, 2007

Fr. David started the meeting at 7:08 with prayer.

Present: Vicar – Fr. David Burgard; AOD Facilitator – Lory McGlennen; Cardinal Mooney – Craig LaDuke; Holy Family – Doug Fournier; Holy Trinity – Elwood Brown, Mercedes Fox & Mary Suarez; Immaculate Conception – Amy O’Gara, Our Lady On The River – Roberta Ivan, Catherine Nutter & Sandy McNeely; St. Augustine – Susan Thomas; St. Edward On The Lake – Sarah Rutkowski & Hank Rutkowski; St. Mary in Port Huron – Garry Isaacson; Adult Formation – Lucy Sebastian; Director of Religious Education – Mary Shoudy; Blue Water Principals – Helen Casper; Youth Ministers – Deanna White; Campus Minister – Erik Coules; Vicariate Secretary – Debie Hauer

Parishes not represented: St. Christopher, St. Mary in St. Clair and St. Mary Queen of Creation

Craig asked for approval of minutes. Helen Casper made motion to approve, Sarah Rutkowski second it.

### **DRE**

Mary Shoudy reported. The con validation seminar was cancelled due to scheduling conflict. They will reschedule. “Call to Serve” is a mandatory program developed for high school Sophomores through Seniors. It will be run like Protecting God’s Children, but focused on young people. St. Mary Queen of Creation will host a session on April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2007. Pat Isaacson will look at a date for the Port Huron area and Sue Dickson will host at Emmett for Blue Water and Thumb Vicariates. Tina K. will host at St Augustine. It is believed that Adults who work with these teens should also take this class so they know what the teens are learning. Example: DRE’s who have teen helpers that they will be sending. Once these teens turn 18 they will be required to take Protecting God’s Children as it is a different program. It was also discussed that Knight’s of Columbus, St. Vincent de Paul people and Eucharist Ministers who take Communion to the home bound should be taking Protecting God’s Children. Immaculate Conception will be hosting a “Winter Day of Prayer” January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2008. They will begin at 9:00 am and end with lunch at 12:30 pm.

### **PRINCIPALS**

The Principals had a workshop with the DRE’s of the Archdiocese on Multicultural Catechesis on October 18<sup>th</sup>. Bishop Flores was the keynote speaker. The September retreat for principals on Catholic Social Teaching has follow up materials coming regularly and a second retreat next summer. Principals are waiting for the results of the Iowa testing.

### **YOUTH MINISTRY**

The Youth Ministers met at Holy Family parish on Tuesday, November 6<sup>th</sup> to discuss upcoming events for the youth in the Blue Water Vicariate. The NET retreat was discussed and the fee for the team has gone up to \$640. The Thumb Vicariate Youth Ministers have been invited to join

the Blue Water Vicariate Youth Minister meetings in an effort to offer more outreach to the youth. They have agreed to meet in January. The Blue Water Youth Ministers are discussing a traveling coffee house program. Each parish would take a turn hosting. The youth and young adults would come and talk about their faith. This will be offered on the first Friday of each month and could include some adoration opportunities. Erik Coules, Campus Minister, will start communicating on a regular basis with the youth ministers so the offerings to the Young Adults can be published in the parishes. Next meeting is in January.

*(As Erik Coules was mentioned in the Youth Ministry report it was the perfect time to introduce him to the VPC.)*

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

Erik Coules the St. Clair Community College Campus Minister attended the meeting. He wondered if he belonged at this meeting. Lory said it would be very helpful if he could join us. Erik is working with the planning committee to get a proposal finalized to hire a Young Adult minister for the next VPC meeting in January.

He is currently ministering at SC4 inside the student center.

Woody stated that the lecture series that used to be at the Newman Center was picked up by Holy Trinity.

### **CARDINAL MOONEY HIGH SCHOOL**

Cardinal Mooney had a good turn out at their open house on November 4<sup>th</sup>. Approximately 40 students have signed up for the High School Placement Test Workshop and Test. All the seniors have their college application completed & mailed to five top choices. The overnight senior retreat will be November 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> at Subiaco. Bishop Boyea said Mass today November 7<sup>th</sup>. The Cardinal Mooney choir will perform at the Fox during an intermission of the Nutcracker. The annual Auction will be on April 19<sup>th</sup>. Cost \$35 prepaid and \$40 at the door.

### **CHRISTIAN SERVICE**

Elwood Brown presented the Christian Service report for Deacon John Connors. Christian Service representatives from seven parishes meet at the Vicariate All Staff gathering on Tuesday, November 6, 2007. Most discussed upcoming Christmas projects such as the Giving Tree, Food Baskets and Jail Outreach projects. Holy Family Parish will be having an Advent Tea on Friday, December 14<sup>th</sup>. Tony Sulkowski will be speaking. Holy Trinity will be having Advent Vespers November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2007 at St. Stephen's Church. Prayer blankets were discussed. Prayer blankets are made as the person prays throughout the process of their construction. They are blessed and distributed to those ailing. St. Mary's of St. Clair has a Justice and Peace committee and an outreach for the grieving. They are considering starting grief counseling for the death of a pet. Their was discussion of doing a Vicariate wide project and will discuss it further at their next meeting in March of 2008.

### **ADULT FORMATION**

Lucy Sebastain reported on the Leadership Conference of October 12, 2007. It was held at St. Mary in St. Clair. Approximately 130 people registered for the conference, 12 were no shows. Lucy provided an expense and income sheet. The cost was \$2,485.37 the income \$1,924.00. The Vicariate had budgeted \$500.00 for this event leaving a deficit of \$61.37. The evaluations

were for the most part very positive. St. Mary is willing to host again next year. Ways to cut costs are being looked at.

The Theology of the Body will be Thursday, November 29<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm at All Saints.

### **MERGED PARISHES**

**Holy Family** is holding discussions regarding building a Family Center north of the church. Faith Formation classes will be held there. They will use this space to have Mass in while they tear down their church and build a new one. They think this building will be about 100 x 170. They believe it should hold about 520 for worship which is what their current church will hold.

**Our Lady on the River** will be starting up Thursday morning Mass again. It will probably alternate between Holy Cross and St. Catherine's. They all really like Fr. Koshy and are grateful for his help.

### **VICAR'S REPORT**

We need to submit one name for the Martin Luther King Award from the following nominations:

Bernice Lund nominated from St. Stephen

Lynn Slaman nominated from St. Mary in St. Clair

Roger Schaller nominated from St. Edward

It was decided that Bernice Lund will be our nominee.

The Senior Clergy appreciation luncheon will be on December 5, 2007 at Big River Grille in Algonac. Fr. David and Craig LaDuke will take the Senior Clergy. They will be sent an invitation which will ask them to call if they need a ride. The appreciation ad was in the Michigan Catholic October 26th.

A new resource manual for Parish Restructuring was given to the Vicars to proof read. It will be given to all parishes. Hopefully the parishes will receive it by Christmas.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Lory guided us through the Tracking Committee response document. We updated each section. Fr. David will report back to the committee.

### **OPEN FORUM**

Lory informed us that meetings are going on at several places to inform people about the parish incorporation process. One will be held the day after this meeting Nov 8, 2007 at St. Theresa of Lisieux. The Department of Finance and Administration will gather the questions that are asked at these meetings and put together information for all parishes.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:15.

Next meeting is January 16<sup>th</sup>.

Holy Family will bring the refreshments.