

Blue Water Vicariate Pastoral Council Meeting

Holy Family, Memphis

September 9, 2009

Gerry St. John brought the meeting to order at 7:15

Fr. Nick led us in a Prayer “Faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead” supplied by Holy Family.

Gerry welcomed new members and introductions were made around the table.

Present: Vicar – Fr. Nick Zukowski; AOD Facilitator – Lory McGlennen; Holy Family – Doug Fournier; Holy Trinity – Sandy Chopman & Sharon Bender; Our Lady on the River – Roberta Ivan; St. Augustine – Gerry St. John & Gerard Szczerbinski; St. Mary, Port Huron – Garry Isaacson; St. Mary Queen of Creation – Larry Paczkowski; Hispanic Rep – Lucy Sebastian; Christian Service – John Connors; DRE’s Tina Kovalcik; Youth Ministers – Deanna White; Vicariate Secretary – Debie Hauer

Not represented: Cardinal Mooney, Immaculate Conception, St. Christopher, St. Edward on the Lake, St. Mary – St. Clair, Campus Ministry, Principals.

OLD BUSINESS

Selection of the VPC Vice Chair

Gerard Szczerbinski graciously agreed to be our Vice Chair

The minutes from June 10, 2009 were approved with the addition of Laurie Elliott as the Youth Minister from St. Mary in Port Huron, to the Youth Ministry report.

Gerry talked about Tattered and Worn. The production that our vicariate DRE’s are sponsoring. Two performances will be offered. The first on Wednesday, October 7th at St. Mary Queen of Creation in New Baltimore and the second on Thursday, October 8th at St. Mary in Port Huron. This is a “gift” from the Blue Water Vicariate to our people.

Career Transition Ministries (CTM)

Holy Family and Holy Trinity at the St. Stephen worship site are both really taking off on this project. Fr. Nick is the chair person of the committee. Guided by the Holy Spirit they are working on the web site which they found to be really lacking both in grammar and user friendliness.

Lory said the AOD is interested in putting together something in this area. It was suggested that they go to the Blue Water Web site and click on the individual parish links to see what they offer.

Deacon John said the CTM at Holy Trinity is trying to reach out to other denominations in Port Huron.

The medical clinic in Port Huron is opening a new section in a week or so. There is a dental clinic on Electric street next door to the mental health building.

NEW BUSINESS

The dates for future VPC meeting and the hospitality are as follows:

October 14 th	Holy Trinity
November 11 th	St. Mary Port Huron
January 13 th	St. Mary Queen of Creation
February 10 th	Immaculate Conception
March 10 th	St. Augustine
May 12 th	St. Mary Saint Clair
June 9 th	St. Edward on the Lake
September 2010	Holy Family

Things we need to focus on this year

Called by Christ Gifted by the Spirit – Stewardship follow-up

Pastors should have received information regarding a repeat of last October's workshop. It will be held at Sacred Heart Seminary on October 19th @7pm, featuring Arch Bishop Vigneron.

Together in Faith is hoping all parishes will get on board with this.

Plan a "Hispanic Concerns" session for the fall of 2009

Determine New Parish Clusters for Every Vicariate Parish

This should include all parishes even the currently merged parishes. This is to be used as a temporary solution in the case of an emergency.

Schools

Together in Faith is happy to see the collaboration between St. Mary's St. Clair and Holy Cross schools. They would like to encourage continued collaboration. The hope we will foster a vision for the future of these two communities.

Relationship between Vicariate Priests and Cardinal Mooney High

Select a priest representative

Budget for FY 2009-2010

The current vicariate dues are \$18,000 which is divided amongst the parishes. We need to re-examine this budget. A Young Adult minister has not been hired to date. Ten thousand was budgeted for this position. Five thousand was budgeted for a vicariate secretary. That wage has been cut in half approximately.

Catholic Schools Agreement

Each school should have received \$18,000. Cardinal Mooney was to receive two portions or \$36,000. Due to a computer glitch downtown the total amount has not been distributed. The glitch has been rectified and we will be sending another check within a month.

LORY'S REPORT ON THE ARCHDIOCESE

The Archdiocese of Detroit is undergoing a major restructuring. Seventy seven jobs will be eliminated. All employees will have to apply for the remaining jobs. Some offices will merge and some will be eliminated. On November 18th everyone currently working will receive an envelope with either a job offer or a dismissal. Lory will no longer be our Vicarette. We will have a representative from the Archdiocese but we do not know who it will be.

OPEN FORUM

Deacon John informed us that Mother Hills shelter is closed in Port Huron. He will give us a better update next month.

Lucy informed us there will not be a Leadership Conference this year.

Several people handed out flyers to share with our parishes. They will be on file with these minutes.

Gerry St. John is asking for feedback over the next couple of months in regard to weddings. Who charges for weddings and how much do they charge. Holy Trinity charges \$300 plus the cost of the musician.

Gerry also stated that St. Augustine's school enrollment went up this year to over 180 students.

Meeting was closed with the Stewardship Prayer and adjourned at 8:40