

Genesis Vicariate Newsletter

APRIL 2010 EDITION

March VPC Meeting Minutes ~ The VPC Council met on March 22nd at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral. The minutes have been edited to fit in this publication; the full version is available on the "Minutes" page of the website at: www.GenesisVPC.org.

The meeting was opened with a prayer at 7 p.m. and Msgr. LeFevre invited St. Bartholomew School rep Anita Kolo and Principal, Sharon Perko, to give a presentation to the council. St. Bart's is the only Catholic School in the Vicariate. It provides a safe environment, has an active student leadership and applied learning in Grades K - 8. They are helping the students become competitive in technology - Wireless Internet is available to all students; Palm Pilots & graphic calculators are used 7th and 8th Grade. They are recognized by the Skillman Foundation and received the 2007-2008 "Good School Award" for high test scores in English, Math, and Science.

They teach self-discipline and respect for others and have "Reading Destination" which improves comprehension and reading scores; a Resource Room for Math and Reading; Computer, Gym, Art, Music, and Spanish classes and take field trips. Extracurricular activities include Glee Club, Boy Scouts, Free Tutoring through Title I Services and have Catholic Youth Organization Sports programs. There's 88 students currently enrolled - their capacity is 200. Tuition is \$3300 but the actual cost is \$6100. The cost per student in a public school is about \$8000. They are located at 20001 Wexford in Detroit and you can contact them at (313) 366-3640 or by email at stbartholomew@sbcglobal.net. You can also visit their website at www.stbartschool.org.

YOUTH MINISTRY - Msgr. LeFevre introduced Joi Hunter, Young Adult Ministry Coordinator for the Central Region (Young Adults are classified as 18-35 year olds, single or married, and with or without children). Joi works with parishes that either do or don't have a Young Adult ministry program. Her office strives to strengthen Young Adult programs and plan events such as workshops, retreats and social events. They help young adults to get more involved in their parishes and to develop a religious life. They are hosting the event "Created for Love ~ Making Gifts of Ourselves" - a Young Adult Day of Reflection, April 25th at St. Paul of the Cross Passionist Retreat & Conference Center, 23333 Schoolcraft, Detroit. It runs from 2 - 8 p.m., is just \$15 per person and includes dinner. For more information or to register please go to www.theconnectionyam.org. You can also contact Joi to assist you with your parish's Young Adult program.

FINANCIAL REPORT - The VPC Secretary presented her Financial Report. There have been a lot of questions regarding the CSA Assessments for this Fiscal year which runs from July '09-June 2010, this is based on a formula of \$1.50 per household. Some parishes inquired if they'll receive a refund for their months with the Central Macomb Vicariate. It was determined that assessments for the current Fiscal Year will stay with the Genesis Vicariate. This would create a bookkeeping nightmare and be difficult to accomplish, as some of the parishes now in the Central Macomb Vicariate are currently unpaid. However, at the Central Macomb Vicariate's Meeting, Fr. Cooney, Vicar, said the parishes from the Genesis Vicariate will receive a pro-rated refund which has caused a lot of confusion. The assessments for parishes now in the CM Vicariate make up over 1/3rd of our total budget. After looking at the budgets, she noticed they total \$19,150 and our total income from assessments is only \$16,660.50 - not a balanced budget. The unpaid assessments to-date total \$5017.50.

OPERATING PROCEDURES - The council reviewed the Operating Procedures that were sent out last month. They are a blueprint for where we are heading and are flexible so they can be changed. Some areas may become more important and prioritized. Within the last two weeks Archbishop Vigneron has asked people to sit on the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council (APC). Their first meeting is April 29th and they'll have an orientation of members and then form subcommittees. They'll be concentrating on creating a plan for diocese that comes from TIF for the last 5 years. They will be building it into a plan to be addressed first at the Diocesan level, then the parish level, the family level, etc. They're recruiting people from each Vicariate and Brian Sadowski, St. Florian's representative, will be the person from our Vicariate sitting on the council. Our Regional Moderator, Msgr. Hanchon, will also be a part of the APC Council.

AOD UPDATES - In January 2008, the Together In Faith Planning process was updated and a letter was sent to all parishes. It stated each Vicariate parish needs to be seriously considering a cluster partner. There are many reasons for having a cluster partner and the plan will go into effect when pastor retires or because of some other unforeseen circumstance that would warrant the need. Lori McGlinnen, AOD rep, distributed the document that was sent to the parishes with the TIF letter and requested the pastors to review and update the information for their parish and to bring the changes to next month's meeting. Among the information reviewed, she noted that parishes should be able to accommodate 70% of households for Liturgies and that there are probably more Masses in our Vicariate than are needed. This is most likely because of the different language Masses that are offered.

A number of task forces looked at many different areas of diocese and some things unequally enforced. One area the diocese needs to do is to review and restructure its debt. On March 4th they'll email an information request with 11 general questions designed to put all the information in one place. The Archbishop will review the results in each region and try to develop a better sense of the financial situation of the Diocese. They will be having one-on-one parish visits to discuss the report's information. The questionnaire is due April 2nd and clustered parishes are asked to fill out a questionnaire for each individual parish, not the cluster as a whole.

ANNOUNCEMENTS - The workshop "Living the Word II - Ministering on the Front Lines" at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit will be on June 5th from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The keynote speaker is Fr. Gregory Chisholm, Pastor of St. Patrick Parish in Oakland, CA. There will be programs to speed the renewal of Spirit in our faith communities; provide practical steps in reordering parish priorities, give a peek at the future land use plans for the City of Detroit and show successful ways to involve parishes in the economic development in the City. For details or more information please call (313) 537-5770.

The Transfiguration~ Our Lady Help of Christians "Annual Spring Fun Festival" will be on Saturday, April 24th and Sunday, April 25th from 12 to 8 p.m. on both days. Homemade Dinners, Games for Adults & Children, Music by Wally Duda, a Major Raffle and lots of fun for everyone! Saturday will be a homemade Meatball Dinner; Sunday will be a City Chicken Dinner - both with all the trimmings! Both days there will be Czarnina and Chicken Soups, Fast Foods and refreshments, including Pop, Beer and Wine Coolers. The Festival is held indoors and has plenty of guarded parking.

The meeting was closed with a prayer by Fr. Bob Kotlarz at 8:32 p.m. Our next meeting will be April 26th at 7 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament.

St. Florian Strawberry Festival ~ May 1st & 2nd - Delicious Polish Food, Polkas & Continental Music, Strawberry Bakery, Raffles, Games. Dine & Dance in our Church Hall or heated tent. Polish Muslims May 2, 5-9 pm. There will be a Firefighter's Parade and Mass on May 1st at 3:30 pm. For more information, please call (313) 770-9349.

Transfiguration-OLCH Spring Fun Festival ~ April 24 & 25, open Noon - 8 pm both days - Homemade Polish Dinners, Games for Adults & Children, Music by Wally Duda, Major Raffle (1st prize - \$1000), Fast Foods, Pop, Beer & Wine Coolers. Located in the Parish Social Hall, plenty of guarded parking! For details, please call the parish office at (313) 892-1310.

Spring Card Party ~ The Christian Women of St. Bartholomew-St. Rita are sponsoring a Spring Card Party on April 17 at Noon in the School Cafeteria. You can enjoy a nice lunch, play Bunco or Cards, There will be Door & Table Prizes and Raffles. Admission only \$8. To reserve a table or for more information, please call (586) 795-4987.

St. Lad's Seniors Card Party ~ St. Ladislaus Rainbow Seniors are having a Card Party in the St. Lad's Gym on April 11, doors open at 11:30 am. Table Prizes, Refreshments. Ticket are \$7 in advance or \$8 at the door. For details or to reserve your seat please call Rosemarie at (313) 873-1923 or Frank at (313) 365-6942.

Card & Bunco Party ~ April 28th at Noon at the Queen of Apostles Activities Center, sponsored by Daughters of Isabella Mystical Rose Circle #736. Light Lunch, Door & Table Prizes, Raffle, Share the Wealth. Just \$7 admission with fenced parking. For details or to reserve your tickets, please call Mary at (313) 873-0271 or Veronica at (313) 972-1435.

Overnight Youth Lock-In ~ The Young Faith Activators of Christ's Teachings invite all urban youth to attend an "Overnight Lock-In" at the Romulus Recreation Center on April 9-10. Come for an evening of fun while learning how young people can help bring awareness to, and do their part to end homelessness. Just \$10 per person includes transportation to Romulus, food and all events including: Swimming, Volleyball, Basketball & Rock Climbing. Friday you will meet at the Church of the Madonna for a session on Homelessness in the City of Detroit; you will then depart for the Romulus Recreation Center. Program sponsored by the City of God Committee and the AOD Offices for Black Catholic Ministry and Youth, Young Adult and Campus Ministry. Adult Chaperones for each parish must accompany youth. For more information call Joyce Francois at (313) 237-5812, email her at Francios.Joyce@aod.org. You can also call John Thorne at (313) 596-7103.

Daughters of Isabella Corporate Communion ~ Mystical Rose Circle #736. Mass will be on April 10th at 4 pm at St. Ladislaus Church. Lunch will follow Mass at the Main Street Restaurant on Joseph Campau. For details or more information, please call Mary at (313) 873-0271 or Veronica at (313) 972-1435.

PRCUA Halka Dancers ~ Annual Dance Recital, April 25th - 3 pm, at the Van Dyke Auditorium of Lincoln High School in Warren. Tickets are just \$7 and will be sold at the door. For more information, please call Rita Cerankowski, Director at (313) 891-2403.

~ Don't forget to read the Announcement section of the Minutes on the front page for other Events happening in and around the Vicariate! ~

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