

Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon
Archdiocesan Pastoral Council
MINUTES
May 10, 2008
The Griffin Center, Milwaukie

Present: Archbishop John G. Vlazny, and Members: Richard Akins, Sr. Joyce Barsotti, Lois Cersovski, Deacon Brett Edmonson, Thom Faller, Anthony Granados, Wendell James, David Mastroieni, John Mikitka, Carmen Swan, Ken Willett and Alma Islas, Youth Observer

Staff Present: Todd Cooper and Msgr. Chuck Lienert

Absent: Msgr. Dennis O'Donovan(E), Marie D'Agrosa(E), Clint Bentz(E), John Cooper(E), To-Ha Doan(E), Sam Jackson(E), Fr. Michael Johnston, Sue Klemenhagen(E), Rick Nelson(E). E = excused.

Archbishop Vlazny celebrated Mass with the APC at 9:30am in the Griffin Center Chapel.

The twenty-ninth meeting of the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council (APC) was called to order at 10:15am. The minutes from the February 23, 2008 meeting of the APC were approved and the revised agenda was accepted.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

The executive committee did not meet, but planned the agenda via telephone and e-mail. Due to a scheduling conflict, the original agenda items had to be rearranged to accommodate the presenters. Sr. Maureen Oliver and Fr. Gary Zerr have resigned from the council.

ARCHBISHOP'S REPORT

- The archbishop traveled to Washington D.C. for the Pope's recent pastoral visit to the U.S. It was a wonderful pastoral visit met with great enthusiasm by the people. The bishops met with the Pope at the National Shrine. Archbishop Vlazny passed out holy cards commemorating the Pope's visit to all of the council members.
- The bishop led a group of pilgrims from the archdiocese to France at the end of April. 2008 marks the 150th anniversary of Mary's apparition at Lourdes. Mass at the grotto in Lourdes was the summit of the pilgrimage. Lisieux, Normandy, Lyon and Paris were also on the itinerary. It was a beautiful journey based on devotion to Mary.
- The bishop recently traveled to Rome and visited the Portland priests and seminarians there. He was able to attend the Papal Audience and thank the Pope for his pastoral visit to the U.S.
- Confirmation season is in full-swing.
- The archbishop extended his sympathy to council member Ken Willett on the recent death of his wife.
- The annual Mass for deceased clergy is 12pm, May 22, 2008 at St. Patrick Parish in Portland.
- Catholic Charities has a new facility in Wilsonville for people with disabilities. They brought together federal, state, county & HUD together to fund this. It shows how the Church can play a very positive role in the community. Catholic Charities also has a capital campaign underway that is going well. A new facility is planned and they have raised almost \$7 million of \$12 million needed. Loaves & Fishes will occupy the first floor of the facility.

On June 21, Catholic Charities will have a 5K walk to raise awareness on world refugee day. There will be speakers and the event will be in the Park Blocks downtown.

- Currently, the archdiocese has forty-one seminarians. Forty-five are expected for next year. Six men were recently ordained as deacons. Two men will be ordained priests on June 7. It is expected that seven men will be ordained priests next year.
- New priest assignments have not closed yet. Some potential retirees have chosen to stay on.
- Archbishop Vlazny will celebrate twenty-five years as a bishop on December 14, 2008. There will be a special Mass to celebrate. Cardinal Levada recently celebrated his twenty-fifth anniversary as a bishop.
- Pending approval in upcoming budget deliberations a staff position for the Oregon Catholic Conference may be filled.

SUBCOMMITTEE WORK SESSIONS

The APC broke up into its subcommittees for work sessions. The three committees of Evangelization, Immigration and Social Justice Ministry met separately for about an hour to continue their work on preparing a proposed plan for these pastoral priorities. Reports on these deliberations were given in the afternoon.

LENT 2008 SMALL GROUPS

Deacon Tom Gornick, Director of the Department of Evangelization, reported. The archdiocese has had some history of participating in small group processes. About fifteen years ago, the diocese participated in Renew. Cost was about \$300 thousand. Between 1999 and 2004, the diocese participated in Disciples in Mission. There were about 12,000 participants per year with 95% of parishes participating. Total costs were about \$500,000.

For Lent of 2008, a small group process was promoted by the diocese. The materials were prepared by Quest (the Archdiocese of Hartford). The Lenten theme for the parish small groups was reconciliation and healing. Seventy-six parishes signed-up to participate, with 8000 Quest participant booklets distributed. Parish feedback was positive & the materials were well received. Direct cost was about \$6000. The effort was a success and the challenge is to build on this success.

PRESENTATION ON THE DIACONATE

Fr. Richard Huneger and Deacon Vern Korchinski, from the Diaconate Office of the Archdiocese of Portland, gave a presentation on the diaconate. Diaconal ministry should be an integral part of the diocesan plan to meet the pastoral needs of the Church. Such a plan should derive from the nature and purpose of the Church.

For our local pastoral priorities, why do we need deacons to help address these needs? At Vatican II, each country was invited to identify its pastoral needs and make a case to the Holy See for permission to reintroduce the diaconate.

Since 1968, about 16,000 deacons have been ordained in the U.S. Forty-seven deacons have been ordained for the Archdiocese of Portland since 1993. We currently have about sixty deacons (some have moved into the diocese). Why could we not have a deacon at every parish (124) and mission (24) in the diocese?

The Church serves as the context of identity. It is a mystery of Trinitarian communion in missionary tension. It is a hierarchical communion. The bishop has the fullness of orders and apostolic ministry for nurture (communion) and constant growth (mission). Priests and deacons share in ministry of the bishop. The presbyteral focus is nurture (*communio*). The diaconal focus is constant growth (*missio*). The two aspects are complementary and cannot be separated.

Both deacons and priests serve as extensions of the bishop's ministry. Understanding the nature of the diaconate is key to forming long term pastoral plans that include deacons.

The Eucharist keeps us on track. The priest says "*Oremus*" (Let us pray) to gather us, and the deacon says "*Ite, missa est*" (Go...) to send us forth.

The bishop can be viewed as the "typos" of the Father and the deacon as "typos" of Christ as Servant of the Father – sent by the Father into the world. The diaconate can be seen as the visibility of Christ for the "*missio*": evangelism for the "constant growth" of the Church – outreach to non-believers and the lapsed, and evangelization leading to "faith becoming culture" – light, salt, and leaven, ensuring that no one is overlooked.

The goal of the diaconate is to transform society. It is a ministry of charity. The diaconate sacramentalizes the service of the Church. Deacons are often seen as strictly parish ministers. However, the ministry of a deacon extends beyond the parish. A new conceptual understanding of the deacon is needed. Most people see the deacon as someone who can do some of the things that a priest can do. We need to move away from this simply functional concept of a deacon and focus more attention on a deacon's identity. A deacon should be a highly visible witness to the truth. We need someone to remind us that we are not just about nourishment, but about mission. A new image of a deacon needs to be developed and promoted – something that is easily understood; an image that comes readily to people's minds when they think of a deacon.

How do we get more deacon candidates? The process for getting candidates needs to be evaluated and perhaps changed.

APC SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- Evangelization/Facilitating a Personal Encounter with Christ: David Mastroieni reported. Much research is being done to find out what is already happening in the archdiocese. A meeting of committee members with Tom Gornick was very fruitful. Another meeting is scheduled with Tom on June 10 to come up with a specific plan for evangelization. A meeting is also scheduled with the Paulists. The committee will meet again in July.
- Immigration: Lois Cersovski reported. The committee discussed rolling this issue into the Social Justice committee, but ultimately felt that this issue is important enough to merit its own focus. Education is a key piece. How can we promote it? Talking points for priests will be developed. A meeting with Catholic Charities is planned. A film called "Dying to Live" can be used as an education piece. Putting the heart and the mind together is the best approach.
- Integrating Social Justice into the Parish: Anthony Granados reported. Research by committee members has led them to conclude that many parishes do charitable activities very well, but that an understanding of Catholic social teaching is lacking amongst many Catholics. Making it mainstream is the goal. The committee will meet in June to review its findings and begin formulating recommendations.

TRAINING/EDUCATION FOR PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Todd Cooper reported. At the meeting between vicars and APC regional representatives on February 2, 2008, it was recommended that some form of training, education, and/or resources be made available for parish pastoral council members. New members are often inquiring about their role and the purpose of a council. Perhaps an orientation video could be made. Materials/training should make clear the purpose of a council as related to the Church's mission of evangelization. Pastoral planning is the focus. Incorporate the themes of social justice. Distinguish the purpose of the administrative council and address the relationship

between various church councils. Materials should include planning resources, info on formulating mission statements and different council models. Materials should help with the overall formation of council members. As one step toward this goal, the archdiocese will update its guidelines for pastoral councils. The most recent resources from the diocese are a 1983 document on pastoral councils and a 1992 document on pastoral planning.

ANNUAL VICARIATE MEETINGS OF PASTORAL COUNCILS

Three documents were prepared to aid the 2008 Annual Vicariate Meetings of Pastoral Councils. The first was a sample agenda (See ATTACHMENT 1). The second was a Parish Preparation Sheet (See ATTACHMENT 2). The third was a bullet point summary of the work of the APC (See ATTACHMENT 3).

- **Metropolitan Eugene Vicariate** – Lois Cersovski reported. The vicariate had not met for a long time. It is being revitalized. The goal is to establish a community and increase communication. They will meet four times per year. A support group for the nine deacons in the vicariate is desired. Better flow of communication is desired. The vicariate would like from the diocese a viable pastoral council model for non-metro parishes. Much of the meeting was dedicated to discussion of ministry to families with loved ones in the new prison and mental hospital. They vicariate wants to be prepared. See ATTACHMENT A for written report.
- **Beaverton Suburban Vicariate** – Thom Faller reported. Parishes shared their ministerial activities surrounding the three APC priorities. The vicariate would like to see the Family Life Office at the diocese reopened. Marriage resources are needed. Better communication is desired from the Pastoral Center. APC minutes should be sent to pastoral council chairs. See ATTACHMENT B for written report.
- **Tualatin Valley Vicariate** – John Mikitka reported. The parish prep sheets seemed ambiguous. Youth ministry tops the list of priorities for the vicariate. Vicariate resource sharing might be easiest at the adult ed. level. Concrete plans will be made for vicariate collaboration. The vicariate discussed having a justice & peace committee. Better communication paths are needed from the archdiocese. Bullet-point summaries of important APC information would be helpful. Feedback to the APC should go through the regional representative. Spanish language resources are also needed from the archdiocese. See ATTACHMENT C for written report.
- **Yamhill County and Marion County Vicariates** – Wendell James reported. Both vicars and vicariates were enthusiastic. The parish prep sheets were completed very well by the parishes. There were lively discussions, especially on the topic of immigration. There is a large Hispanic presence in the vicariate. Two Spanish Masses have been added. Theology on Tap is being started. Much is happening. Written reports are forthcoming.
- **West Portland Suburban** – Dick Akins reported. Discussion centered on establishing a more firm commitment to a vicariate presence. There are things that each of the parishes would like to do but can't do on their own. Discussed establishing a clearinghouse for communications. More vicariate meetings are desired. See ATTACHMENT D.
- **Columbia County Vicariate** – Marie D'Agrosa submitted a written report on the meeting, which was distributed to the council. She will report orally at the next meeting. See ATTACHMENT E for written report.

Some vicariates had not yet met for their Annual Vicariate Meeting of Pastoral Councils. APC regional representatives will give those vicariate reports at the next meeting in September.

REORGANIZATION UPDATE

On March 6, the archbishop was given the final recommendation by an advisory committee to reorganize the archdiocese from a corporation sole to a member corporation. The committee felt that this would best mirror Church law and best protect the assets of individual parishes. Each parish will be structured as a separate non-profit member corporation with the Archbishop of Portland designated as the sole member. Each parish corporation will have a five-person Board of Directors that will include the pastor, vicar general, a member of the college of consultors, and two appointed members, typically representatives from the finance council and the parish pastoral council. Diocesan Catholic high schools will be similarly reorganized. There will be no noticeable difference in the operations of a parish or school. The archdiocese is now working to help educate everyone about the changes.

NEXT MEETING of the APC: September 20, 2008

Respectfully submitted,
Todd Cooper, APC Staff

ATTACHMENT 1

2008 ANNUAL VICARIATE MEETING OF PASTORAL COUNCILS

SAMPLE AGENDA (2-3 hrs)

Welcome & Opening Prayer – Vicar

Purpose of the Annual Vicariate Meeting of Pastoral Councils – Vicar

Purpose: Gather as a vicariate to discuss and develop pastoral plans for the region and to collaborate in carrying out those plans. Vicariate planning should be influenced by individual parish pastoral priorities as well as by diocesan pastoral priorities. The Annual Vicariate Meeting of Pastoral Councils should also serve to strengthen the connection between individual parish pastoral councils and the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council.

Report on the work of the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council – APC Vicariate Rep

Vicariate Pastoral Planning & Collaboration – APC Vicariate Rep/Participants

- Allow each parish time to share with the vicariate what they discussed and recorded on their Parish Preparation Sheets.
- Afterwards, spend 10-15 minutes discussing each of the following questions. If the group is large, break up into smaller sharing groups. Appoint recorders to bring the responses back to the large group and to give them to the APC rep.
 - Based on what was heard from the parishes, what pastoral ministries/activities might best be shared or expanded to benefit other parishes in our vicariate?
 - In what practical ways could we collaborate as a vicariate to enhance these ministries?
 - What suggestions does the vicariate have for the APC to help enhance each of the three pastoral topics discussed?
 - What resources/assistance could be used from the Archdiocese to enhance or begin effective vicariate pastoral ministries?

Increasing and Enhancing Communication – APC Vicariate Representative

- Allow time for a general discussion about how to enhance communication for pastoral planning. Address the following questions:
 - On the vicariate level, how can communication be increased in order to help promote pastoral planning and activities?
 - On the diocesan level, how can the APC better communicate with the vicariate and with individual parishes? Do pastoral council chairs wish to receive the minutes from the APC meetings? Is it reasonable/desirable to ask parishes to provide the contact info for the pastoral council chairperson?

Other Business – Vicar

Information sharing amongst parishes, upcoming events
The vicar may wish to raise other vicariate business

Closing Prayer – Vicar

ATTACHMENT 2

PARISH PREPARATION SHEET

Attention: Parish Pastoral Council Chairperson

All pastoral council members in all parishes within the vicariate are invited to attend the 2008 Annual Vicariate Meeting of Pastoral Councils (AVMPC). Your Area Vicar and Archdiocesan Pastoral Council Vicariate Representative will organize this meeting and notify you of the date, time and place. The chairperson of each parish pastoral council should make special effort to be present or to assign at least one representative from the pastoral council to attend. In preparation for the 2008 Annual Vicariate Meeting of Pastoral Councils, please discuss the following items with your council and bring a written summary of this information to the annual meeting. Use this sheet for notes and attach additional pages as needed. If you have any questions, please contact your Archdiocesan Pastoral Council Vicariate Representative, or Todd Cooper, Archdiocesan Pastoral Council staff, at 503-233-8386 or tcooper@archdpdx.org. Thank you.

NAME OF PARISH _____

NAME OF VICARIATE _____

1. What pastoral ministries/activities are we promoting in our parish that are especially effective at facilitating a personal encounter with Christ? How does our parish help train Catholics to be evangelizers? Could these ministries be shared and/or expanded to benefit other parishes in our vicariate? If so, how might this be done?

2. Has our parish formally wrestled with the issue of immigration? Is our parish familiar with the U.S. Bishops' stance on immigration? How is our parish reaching out to immigrants? Is there a way that the vicariate could collaborate to promote a Gospel understanding of immigration and a corresponding response to immigrants?

3. In what ways does our parish integrate social justice ministry and teaching into parish life? Is our parish familiar with the seven principles of Catholic Social Teaching? Does our social justice ministry include pro-life activities? Which social justice ministries, events, or education opportunities could the vicariate work to help organize, promote or support?

ATTACHMENT 3

BULLET POINTS for APC Vicariate Representatives to Report on the Work of the APC

ARCHDIOCESAN PASTORAL COUNCIL

Since Last Spring...

- The APC has met with the Archbishop four times (19May07, 29Sept07, 1Dec07, 23Feb08)
- Made a one-day retreat on Discerning the Presence of the Holy Spirit (23Feb08)
- Addressed the continued involvement of the Archdiocese in **Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon**. Even though some of the member churches of EMO have diverging theology and moral opinions, Catholics have an obligation to stay involved in Ecumenism. Christ's prayer is that "they may be one". While we formally stay involved in ecumenism through EMO, we must educate Catholics that the Archdiocese is not compromising its values or straying away from official Church teaching on issues such as abortion and gay marriage.
- Made provision for a **youth observer** on the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council – Alma Islas of St. Anthony's Parish in Tigard.
- Last Spring, at the urging of Archbishop Vlazny, the APC re-visited the **U.S. Bishops' document "Go and Make Disciples"**. This document was re-affirmed as the framework for pastoral planning in the Archdiocese.
- **Established three subcommittees** to focus on the following pastoral priorities:
 - 1) **Evangelization - Facilitating a personal encounter with Christ** and training Catholics to be evangelizers
 - 2) **Immigration** concerns
 - 3) Integrate **social justice ministry/teaching** into the parish (pro-life is a part of this).

The goal of these committees is to Locate & Study Relevant Documents, Consult with People in the Field & Convene Ministers/Experts to gather input and ideas. Analyze Data – Are successful programs in place? How expand? What resources/support will help make this ministry more effective? What are success factors? How are these defined and measured? Make specific proposals to the bishop with resource requirements within the next twelve months.

- Recommended that the archbishop promote the formation of small, faith-sharing groups in parishes. Hence, the promotion of parish **small groups for Lent 2008**
- Supported the Archdiocesan initiative to implement a new **Sexual Abuse Prevention Program**.
- **APC Regional Reps met with Area Vicars** on February 2, 2008. Discussed the Annual Vicariate Meetings of Pastoral Councils, Vicariate Collaboration, Communication, Participation, and the Role of the Vicar
- Is developing a **Technology Committee** to gather information and make recommendations about the plan for use and purchase of computers, software, and other technological products.

ATTACHMENT 3

- Helped to organize the **Annual Vicariate Meeting of Pastoral Councils**, which the Archbishop sees as critical to the success of pastoral planning in the Archdiocese of Portland.
- The APC continues to listen to input from the vicariates to help shape its pastoral planning and recommendations.

The previously established pastoral priorities are still recognized and promoted:

1. Faith Formation at All Levels
2. Youth and Young Adult Ministry
3. Multicultural Ministry

The APC continues to hear the following:

- A resounding call for enhancement of faith formation
- A call for better communication at all levels – diocesan, vicariate, and parish
- That the value of vicariate collaboration is being recognized and affirmed

ATTACHMENT A

Summary of May 3, 2008 Metro Eugene Vicariate Gathering Submitted by Lois Cersovski, APC Regional Rep

Around the Vicariate - News & Information

St. Rose of Lima, Monroe

-The parish will celebrate its 130th anniversary on August 24, 2008 with a Mass at 1 PM with Archbishop Vlazny followed by a parish dinner

St. Peter, Eugene

-Renovations are underway to create a new entranceway to the church that will provide a more welcoming space and be large enough to host after Mass Friendship Sunday activities.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Cottage Grove

-They are focusing efforts on evangelization and are working with Paulist priests to make this happen.
-Also they are dedicating their new Rosary Garden on May 18th it is located next to their bell tower.
-Youth from the parish are going on a mission trip to Mexico this summer

St. Mary, Eugene

Fr. Mark is on sabbatical in Mexico, Fr. Rock from Goa, India is filling for him.
Stewardship Sunday is scheduled for May 18th at O'Hara Catholic School. The focus is on what St. Mary's has to offer its parishioners versus a drive for money.

St. Helen, Junction City

-The parish is restructuring from a pastoral council model to a parish council model
-A new granite sign will be installed by the end of June replacing the current wooden one
-In the last 5 years the Hispanic community has grown from about 10 to 200 hundred families. They are forming their own council and collection for the poor. A bilingual Mass is offered once a month followed by a social.

St. Catherine, Veneta

- Fr. Mike has been at the parish helm for about a year and they feel so blessed to have him. They have not had a resident priest in many years. They continue the transition from a lay led parish to one with a pastor.
-Called to Protect training is being offered to the whole parish via a power point presentation between Masses. With adult supervision high school students are leading classes for middle school and elementary
-The Annual St. Catherine Pit BBQ will be July 27th

St. Mark, Eugene

- The parish is focusing on evangelization. They have developed a steering committee and have completed their first activity, a flyer drop in the new subdivisions in the parish. Visitors and new comers are asked to stand before Mass so they can receive a gift.
-A Spanish Mass has been added on Saturday evenings

St. Jude, Eugene

-Religious Ed has moved to once a month on Saturday afternoon, ending with Mass and a parish potluck
-A Rummage Sale is scheduled for 13 -15 June
-They are also renovating the entry way to the church to make it more inviting
school

Discussion Items

Vicariate Report to the APC

The format sent by the Archdiocese was read and discussed. Members present were in agreement that the format wasn't very useful. There were parishes that could fill it out because they were large enough such as St. Mary, but smaller parishes like St. Helen and definitely St. Rose work under a different model which this type of report format doesn't take into consideration. This generated the question **what do we need from the Archdiocese?** (1) We need an updated and viable Parish Council model for non-Metro Portland parishes. (The last guidelines for parish councils that anyone could remember was circa 1983)

ATTACHMENT A

If the Archdiocese could develop a model that addressed large parishes (maybe using a corporate model), mid size parishes (maybe using a small business model) and small parishes (maybe using a community based model), we could give a better picture of what is happening in our Archdiocese and Church at large. This would facilitate better communication between the parishes and the Archdiocese. (2) Better communication up and down the chain. Frustration was shared that the information needed regarding the restructuring was requested without giving parishes time to convene their councils and gather the information in the most effective way possible.

Ministry to Families with Relatives in the new Prison & Mental Hospital

A new medium security prison and an adjacent mental hospital are scheduled to open in about three years on property between Eugene and Junction City. We discussed how as a vicariate we would prepare for and support the families of people in these facilities. Once the facilities open the impact on our communities will be immediate and so how do we prepare?

Training - Fr. Charles shared that the Junction City Ministerial Association is looking at utilizing the Stevens Ministry Program. This program provided interdenominational training that allows individuals to retain their own faith, but work together.

Housing - Concern has been expressed that families will move into the area to be near their loved ones, and create a ghetto type environment around the area. Terry McDonnel of St Vincent de Paul has been contacted about building low income apartments in Junction City. His response was - if invited he will do it.

Suggestion- It was suggested that a vicariate committee be established to chair this project. The consensus was that we are not ready to do this.

ACTION ITEM: Each parish council will talk about the prison/hospital impact on each parish and how they envision providing support and report back at the next vicariate meeting on October 18th.

Latin Mass

About 60 people have shown an interest in having a Latin Mass. Most seem to be in the 50 and under age group. A lively discussion ensued, and the matter was tabled until Fr. Mark returns from his sabbatical.

NEXT VICARIATE GATHERING IS OCTOBER 18 @ ST MARY 10 am - NOON

ATTACHMENT B

2008 BEAVERTON-SUBURGAN VICARIATE PASTORAL COUNCILS MEETING

The Vicariate met on April 12th at the Bethany Center, SSMO Convent. St. Juan Diego Parish was the host.

All five of the parishes making up the vicariate were present including Father Forbes (Vicar) and 3 representatives from St. John Fisher, Father Kerns and 5 representatives from St. Juan Diego Parish, Father Dave Gutmann and 3 representatives from Holy Trinity, the Pastoral Council chair and one other representative from St. Cecilia, and the Co-Chairs of the Pastoral Council from St. Pius.

Thom Faller, the APC Vicariate representative, welcomed the group and introduced Father Forbes who opened the meeting with prayer.

Father Forbes also reminded the group of the purpose of the annual vicariate meetings.

Thom reported on the activities of the APC since the 2007 annual meeting.

As not all of the pastoral councils had the opportunity to prepare the Parish Preparation Sheet, the group divided into the respective parish groups to work through the questions on the sheet.

The group was reconvened, and the individual parishes responded to the three groups of questions. The responses:

St. Juan Diego. (1) Pastoral ministries and activities: Men's and women's retreat; Parish nursing; Los Almadores (youth travel to Mexico to build houses, etc.); FAITH CAFÉ (a very successful ecumenical project which helps needy families which may expand to two nights a week). (2) Immigration: Nothing. (3) Social Justice: 5% of the weekly collection is given to social justice ministry programs; organize tutoring classes and help with optometry needs.

St. Cecilia. (1) Pastoral Ministries: Evangelization done on macro and micro mission levels. There are 61 areas of ministry. Some such as Grief Ministry are done at the macro level and Prayer Shawl at the micro level. (2) Immigration: Nothing is done regarding the legal issues but the parish reaches out to multicultural immigrants. There is a Hispanic Mass. (3) Social Concerns: The parish is very active. There is a partner parish in New Mexico with an Indian reservation. There will be a convocation of ministries in May.

St. John Fisher. (1) Pastoral Ministries: They hold a "Personal Encounter with Christ" with current discussion on the Mass. For six years they have held Soup Suppers with speakers. Also, during Lent, Stations of the Cross are held. The RCIA Program encourages all members of the parish to attend not just those seeking to become Catholic.

(2) Immigration: Nothing specific is done as the demographics of the parish do not require anything. (3) Social Justice: The parish participates in the Vicariate project of Faith Café and the Walk of the Cross on Good Friday. They collect Pennies for the Poor to assist physicians who operate in Guatemala.

Holy Trinity. (1,2,3) Pastoral Ministries, Immigration and Social Justice: An International Festival is held every year. A Novena for the Philippine community is held. They participate in the Walk of the Cross. They held an Espresso Soul event for the post-college to the 40-year-old parish members.

ATTACHMENT B

St. Pius. (1) Pastoral Ministries: Evangelization undertakings include soup suppers; Catholic Conversations, men and women retreats, social groups for the under 55 and over 55 year olds. There is a Parish Health Nurse program focusing on diabetes. Also, there is a Right to Life emphasis as well as lectures on such topics as Physician Assisted Suicide. (2) Immigration: Bilingual liturgical services are held. A Hispanic Mass is held every Sunday. (3) Social Justice: Participated in Habitat for Humanity. Held a Ticket to Heaven social. Participate also in Elizabeth Ministries with diapers and milk. There is a Bereavement Committee, a Prayer Shawl Ministry. The parish has a sister-parish in Mississippi and one in Africa.

Communication on the Vicariate Level (general comments):

(1) St. Cecilia's attempted some work with Catholic Charities but it was not successful. (2) Most of the vicariate sharing of projects has been initiated by the staffs of the parishes. (3) The importance of getting together on the vicariate level to coordinate activities was recognized. (4) The Chairs of the Pastoral Councils need to assemble periodically. (5) All of the vicariate parishes should participate as a group in the Ministry Fair.

Suggestions to the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council:

(1) Bring back the Family Life Office. (2) More communication from the Pastoral Center and within the Archdiocese than just through the SENTINEL and not just sent to pastors. (3) Greater use of websites including activities of other parishes using web links to tie the parishes together. (4) The minutes of the APC should be sent to all Pastoral Council chairs. [All Parish Councils should send their minutes to the chairs of the other Pastoral Council chairs in their vicariate.]. (5) Investigate the feasibility of starting a new Catholic High School.

The Closing Prayer was led by Father John Kerns.

ATTACHMENT C

April 26, 2008

Tualatin Valley Annual Vicariate Meeting of Pastoral Councils
Minutes

Attendees: John Mikitka, Fr. David Schiferl,

Purpose of the Annual Vicariate Meeting of Pastoral Councils – Vicar

Meeting opened at 9:10am with a prayer by Fr. David Schiferl.

Vicariate Pastoral Planning & Collaboration – APC Vicariate Rep/Participants

1. *What pastoral ministries/activities might best be shared or expanded to benefit other parishes in our vicariate?*
 - Form a vicariate social justice/peace & justice/pro-life committee. This topic is not always very attractive (for some, boring). The question is: How we make it interesting? There is not as much to do on a regular basis (such as with a liturgy). Because of that, it may be something we can share. A group of people may be able to help us all do a better job. Also look to have wider political participation with regard to our faith. St. Philip Neri has a good social justice program. Even just one or two events a year would be good. We need to ensure accountability – put controls and process in place to ensure the committee doesn't go off on a tangent.
 - Parishes can share some resources with respect to sacramental preparation.
 - Would like to see a common quincenera policy within the vicariate. We could even do a group quincenera.
 - Youth programs are another area in which we can share and interchange.
 - Education topics – can we pool resources as a vicariate – maybe even come up with a bulletin insert?
2. *In what practical ways could we collaborate as a vicariate to enhance these ministries?*
 - Propose a sub-committee to form a vicariate – level social justice committee & set accountability. However, need to figure out how to include staff input & keep communication open. We don't want this to be an additional burden on staff resources – we expect the committee to expend effort.
 - Make more of an effort to tell other parishes what's happening – some parishes are looking to fill the bulletin.
 - A common event calendar for the vicariate could help coordinate and schedule events.
 - Much feedback that we should meet more often as a vicariate. A year is a big gap between meetings. Although our once a year meeting is not supposed to include staff; this seems very disconnected. We may want to include staff if we meet more often.
3. *What suggestions does the vicariate have for the APC to help enhance each of the three pastoral topics discussed?*
 - Better communication – seems to be a lot of ambiguity in the communications we receive. We can understand directions and focus better through improved communication. There are also a lot of unknowns – provide education (bishop's stand on immigration, 7 key themes of Catholic Social Teaching).
 - May be good to hold more focused vicariate meetings on specific topics. Hard to get things done when the meeting is general, like today's annual meeting.
 - Ask parishes what behaviors they are taking (with parishioners, staff, etc.) to encourage a personal encounter with Christ (or immigration, social justice), or even implement the pastoral goals of the Archdiocese. Do we put this on the performance appraisals – does the

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Archdiocese ask the parishes if they actually respond? We should be measured and be held accountable. Maybe even create an evaluation each year. Maybe even add this to performance appraisals.

- We ask the APC to help give guidance on how we can be held accountable at a parish level.
 - How are the priests held accountable (comment came from a priest) to focus on the goals – am I preaching about the goals?
 - A comment made that the focus on immigration means that the Church is letting go of all the people who have been with the Church for a while. Focus on minority groups mean concerns of the folks who have been here for a while are being ignored. Need to find a way to keep parents and kids involved in the Church.
4. *What resources/assistance could be used from the Archdiocese to enhance or begin effective vicariate pastoral ministries?*
- Written communication on each of these three topics that would come out to parishes. Nice, clear, friendly English and Spanish position on all three topics. Would like to see that 3 to 4 time through the course of the year. Perception that there is a lack of direct communication coming from the Archbishop. Resources may be out there, but the parishes not necessarily getting them.
 - Need to get information out to key decision makers, then also communications to go out to the general parishioners. For parishioners, communication needs to be simple, almost like bullet-point. Need to find a way to summarize all the info and make it easy to digest for most parishioners.
 - Resources links for bulletins – information given to everybody.

Increasing and Enhancing Communication – APC Vicariate Representative

1. *On the vicariate level, how can communication be increased in order to help promote pastoral planning and activities?*
- Additional meetings as noted above. Once a year is not enough to follow up on what we discuss.
2. *On the diocesan level, how can the APC better communicate with the vicariate and with individual parishes? Do pastoral council chairs wish to receive the minutes from the APC meetings? Is it reasonable/desirable to ask parishes to provide the contact information for the pastoral council chairperson?*
- Chairs try to pass the APC representative notes on to their Pastoral Councils, but it's hard to pull out the key nuggets. Chairs would like to see a bulleted summary with key items APC would like the parish Pastoral Councils to understand.
 - Vicariate would like to see APC representative notes e-mailed to anyone on interested on the parish Pastoral Councils.
 - Will there be mechanism to ask questions of the Council? Yes – that is the APC representative.
 - Have the APC give 2 or three bullet points that they would like to see the Pastoral Councils at the parish level discuss (like the preparation sheet for this meeting). By having those topics will be a catalyst to bring up feedback to the APC.
 - Many times, notes, information and minutes are distributed, but aren't necessarily processed by individuals.

Other Business – Vicar

Closing Prayer – Vicar

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2008 ANNUAL VICARIATE MEETING OF PASTORAL COUNCILS West Portland, Suburban Vicariate Wednesday, March 12, 2008

Held at Resurrection Catholic Parish Center, Tualatin, OR

The newly appointed Chairman Dick Akins opened the meeting at 7:05 PM. There were 26 people in attendance plus Chairman Dick Akins, Fr. Bill Moisant and Secretary Ann Akins.

Fr. Bill of Resurrection Catholic Parish delivered opening prayer.

NOTE: *Date on top of agenda has been corrected to read March 12, 2008, not May 12.*

Mr. Akins gave his opening remarks. He then presented his report of one-day retreat on Feb. 23, 2008 that he had attended on their behalf. Minutes of that meeting are attached. See APC Vicariate Representatives Report on the Work of the APC

I - Parish Reports:

EDITOR'S NOTE: Individual parish reports not included in the APC minutes

St. Elizabeth's: (See attached report)

Summary: Highlights in report: Despite only having 300 families, they have 75-80 members actively participating! They are supporting Hispanic ministry in archdiocese. Also, they sponsor a "gifts for the children of the imprisoned" program at Christmastime as well as helping support their sister parish, Immaculate Heart. They also supply Eucharistic Ministers at the hospital.

St. Clare's: (See attached report)

Summary: Highlights in report: Established a new Vision Statement for parish "designed to integrate the 3 parts of the parish (church, school, pre-school) with a common purpose" and new Pastoral Mission Statement "...to create and sustain a dynamic liturgy, provide a center for Christian formations and reflects Christ through our warm acceptance and outreach to all our brother and sisters..."

St. Cyril: (See attached report)

Frank Garcia reporting:

Living in Wilsonville and reporting on St. Cyril in Danton, OR (a town of only 2000 people) – most families spoke in Spanish – worked hard to learn English and they worked in berry farms. They had integration challenges. Parish draws people who speak Spanish – has a bilingual pastor. With every change, there were challenges testing our spirituality. As Parish Council Chairman, he has seen challenges and new visions and so much more to the rebirth of St. Cyril's parish!

- 1) Promoting the parish: members began talking about faith building – they currently have 30 people in the confirmation class! Men's group meets monthly and working on building the faith and community.

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- 2) Dedicated service/building community: they now have 52 ministers! The dialogue is now happening – it coordinated and effective in-depth knowledge among parishioners.
- 3) Immigrants: the Spanish wave can serve as a good conduit. Wilsonville has a large service industry as well. Demographic shifts taking place now to help us better understand the culture and room for opportunity of growth.
- 4) English as 2nd language is stressed.
- 5) Social justice ministry: they just finished building a house for a needy family in their community – a 6-month project!
- 6) Prison Ministry – Coffee Creek reaching out to them.
- 7) Martha's Circle – help people transition **with dignity**.

St. Francis: Jeff Wiren reporting:

Summary: Highlights in report: They have 50-60 active ministers. Very notable social action group. Their “Hope Diner” serves meals to the needy. Holding Soup Suppers during Lent. Getting parish leaders together for town hall meetings. Just started working with Sr. Mary Peter in Mexico asking for their mission – some plans just getting underway. Parish growing, in middle of capital campaign for new gym for school. Parish is well directed.

St. Anthony's: *did not get the questions beforehand but had developed their own list – will email us his notes:*

Summary: Backdrop of the parish is excellent leadership! Actually 3 communities in one: Spanish, Korean and English – integration programs are in place. Main question: how do we participate across those boundaries? They held their first tri-lingual parish meeting! Backdrop similar but unique – Tigard Triangle.

- 1) Vocational development is difficult.
- 2) Increasing spirituality in our lives. Co-existing meeting more space.
- 3) Increasing our tolerance – parish picnic 1500 people! Huge event!
- 4) Struggle with maturing pastoral councils – tackle with philosophical.
- 5) They asked Our Lake of the Lake for ideas – marginal success.
- 6) Huge growth in Spanish group.
- 7) Their Peace and Justice Committee is “A Happening”!
- 8) Many Hispanic workshops – successes are occurring.
- 9) Their grassroots phone call group can put more food on a table almost instantly.

Our Lady of the Lake: Fr. Joseph McMahon reporting:

Summary: Evangelization – men's and women's spirituality meeting weekly. Currently 60 students in Confirmation class and 90-100 students for Holy Communion this year.

- 1) Just now starting Council efforts on adult education in the parish.
- 2) Immigration: the parishioners are not terribly well informed on current issues because parish is not really affected by it.
- 3) They have had a very active St. Vincent de Paul program for years.
- 4) Help a parish in Mississippi.
- 5) Working with St. Joseph's in Mt. Angel: working to address hopeless in the area and help folks rebuilt their homes in the community.
- 6) Working on:

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- a. Lenten faith sharing
- b. Returning Catholic program
- c. Life team program
- d. Young adult program

Resurrection Parish: Dick Akins reporting:

Summary: The parish has now grown from 400 families to over 1000 families in the last few years!

- 1) We now have 250 children in our CCD study groups.
- 2) On a quarterly basis – we do the “Sacrament of the Sick” – just 2 weeks ago we had over 150 people in line to receive the blessing!
- 3) Started a new Adult Ed class called “Sacraments 101”: classes done twice each week: during Bible Study in early AM and the other class in the evening for working people.
- 4) Hired a Music Director – we have both folk and traditional groups at different Masses each week.
- 5) Took confirmation class through a new “1 on 1” with adult parishioner – highly successful! We had more adults volunteering than we had students!
- 6) Peace and Justice - we have a committee for Peace and Justice. *Important – our members to go out into the community.*
- 7) Our attempt at a Spanish community did not work. We now support St. Anthony’s efforts.
- 8) There is big growth in our geographic area – now becoming “church row” – need to show our young people we are here to help them grow in community.

II – What do we need to do as a Vicariate? How can the Vicariate help??

Questions/what is currently being done to tackle these issues:

1. Need the program to be a guideline program.
2. Young adults group – how is it being handled? Kristina Kiely made contact by invitation.
3. Per Damien Johnson, Lady of the Lake: Marketing is biggest problem – how to market church events? Need a clearinghouse about other parish events/activities. St. Cyril’s rep. talked about everything they are currently doing but we need to expand news throughout the Vicariate.
4. Potential Vicariate effort could be Social Justice – attacking homelessness/food bank efforts mentioned.
5. Per St. Cyril’s rep: What is position of church on a place or insert into bulletin? There is an archdiocesan person in place handling this.
6. Per St. Francis – communication going forward:
 - a. Any meeting once a year is challenging
 - b. Quarterly meeting coordinating efforts by parishes in Vicariate would be helpful - per Dick Akins
7. Dick Akins recommended a Vicariate website address where kids can go to ask questions.

CAUTION NOTED HERE: *must be careful to create “safe environment” on a website. Our Lake of Lake kids will go away to college and bridge that gap by going to their website: Lifeteam.com*

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8. We need more priests – where will they come from in future.
9. Dick to put minutes together – then put out questionnaire to which they are to vote:
Yes/no/abstain
10. Gets a communication network going: Dick Akins gave out his email – asked all the attendees to email him so he can get a clean list of everyone’s email addresses.
11. What is a “Vicariate”? Educate our people about Vicariate – structure of the church.

Other general comments:

Frank Garcia from St. Cyril: immigrants going into shadows because of deportation issue – wants to get a diocese message out there to back him in this calling.

Homework to take home to their parish councils – Dick Akins passed out green sheets.

Per Dick Akins – 360-degree circle – we need to make a commitment not to abandon anyone.

Father Bill, as Chairman of the Vicariate, support each other – if each parish just took one part of the effort and do it well it would mean a great deal.

Father Les Sieg from St. Anthony’s gave the closing prayer. The meeting was officially closed at 8:55 PM. Members stayed after for 1-on-1 conversations with coffee and munchies.

Where do we go from here?

Purpose of Vicariate Meeting of Pastoral Councils

Purpose: Gather as a vicariate to discuss and develop pastoral plans for the region and to collaborate in carrying out those plans. Vicariate planning should be influenced by individual parish pastoral priorities as well as by diocesan pastoral priorities. The Vicariate Meeting of Pastoral Councils should also serve to strengthen the connection between individual parish pastoral councils and the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council.

Vicariate Pastoral Planning & Collaboration

- Each parish of the vicariate should address the following issues and report its conclusions, recommendations, needs, desires to the Archdiocesan Pastoral Representative – (Dick Akins at dickakins@comcast.net)
 - What pastoral ministries/activities might best be shared or expanded to benefit other parishes in our vicariate?
 - In what practical ways could we collaborate as a vicariate to enhance these ministries?
 - What suggestions does the parish have for the APC to help enhance each of the three pastoral topics discussed?

“Go and Make Disciples”

1. Evangelization
 2. Immigration Concerns
 3. Social Justice Ministry
- What resources/assistance could be used from the Archdiocese to enhance or begin effective parish pastoral ministries?

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Increasing and Enhancing Communication

- On the vicariate level, how can communication be increased in order to help promote pastoral planning and activities?
- On the diocesan level, how can the APC better communicate with the vicariate and with individual parishes?
- Do pastoral council chairs wish to receive the minutes from the APC meetings?
- Is it reasonable/desirable to ask parishes to provide the contact info for the pastoral council chairperson?
- How can we better share and communicate information about individual parish upcoming events?

End of Report.

ATTACHMENT E

Columbia County Vicariate - AVMPC April, 2008
Marie D'Agrosa, APC Representative

The Columbia County Vicariate held its meeting in April with all parishes represented by both their parish priest and members of their pastoral councils. The meeting included a lively exchange of ideas and a proposal that the vicariate meet quarterly to continue the discussions, it was agreed upon and the vicariate is planning to meet again in June. The quarterly meetings will be held in a different parish every meeting so that we all have the opportunity to visit the parishes in our vicariate.

Each parish has a unique population and while there are common concerns there are also issues that are particular to the individual parishes. The input from the neighboring parishes really helped generate some new ways for parishes to look at their population.

In responding to the three questions we were asked to discuss:

1) All parishes felt that evangelization is done in the day to day living out of our faith and that the 'training Catholic's to be evangelizers' was a difficult concept to nail down. A practicing Catholic properly educated in his or her faith and living out that faith in their families, neighborhood and work place *is* evangelization.

Each parish shared some of the activities that were being offered in their parishes; Small group bible studies, weekly faith formation classes, Stations of the Cross, Adoration, guest speakers, Christmas pageants, Advent fairs, Lenten fairs, Shadow stations of the cross, Confirmation retreats, visitation groups for the homebound, welcoming committees, church picnics, campouts, bbq's, raffles, soup dinners, retreats, movies nights, prayer chains, woman's groups these were just some of the activities that were a part of our parish activities. It was rewarding to witness the interest generated by what was happening in the neighboring parishes and as different programs were explained, people started to discuss how they could adapt certain programs to their parish community.

2) There is only one parish, St Frederic's in St Helen's, that has dealt with the immigration issue first hand. St Frederic's is the only parish in the vicariate that has a large population of immigrants as part of their parish family. They have 2 permanent nuns that do a lot of work with the Hispanic population and the Church is moving forward in making the necessary changes in their programs to assimilate the needs of the Hispanic community. They are very pleased with how well things are going. There are a few activities that the Hispanic community has taken charge of and it has made them feel more a part of the St Frederic family.

3) All parishes have some sort of ongoing social justice ministry as part of their normal church activity. All parishes have some sort of outreach to the poor in their community. Most parishes had some sort of food pantry and several had funds set aside to help the needy pay their electric, home or gas bills. Two parishes also provided clothing to the poor. All parishes had giving trees at Christmas.

St Wenceslaus works with the Clark center providing dinner at a men's shelter once a month and they also work with Camp Azul, a migrant camp, providing the kids with backpacks and school supplies at the beginning of each school year, turkeys at Thanksgiving and Christmas gifts during the Christmas holidays.

All parishes worked with some sort of pro-life organization with several of the parishes collecting money in baby bottles for Birthright.

NONE of the people at the vicariate meeting could name the 7 principles of Catholic Social Teaching but when they were told what they were they certainly were familiar with them.