

**Monroe Vicariate Evangelization & Adult Faith Formation  
Standing Committee Meeting, St. Anne Church, Newport, MI  
September 23, 2010**

**Meeting began** at 7:10 p.m. with a prayer and reflection led by Mary Kolasinski.

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT
Marcia Burlen (St. Joseph, Erie)	Yvonne Davison (St. John the Baptist)
Gary Davis (St. Mary, Monroe)	Donna Galante (St. Mary, Rockwood)
Kathleen DeFigueiredo (St. Michael the Archangel)	Fran Nagley (St. Joseph, Ida)
Gerald Demski (St. Michael the Archangel)	Gayle Patterfritz (St. Joseph-Monroe)
Karen Flint (St. Charles)	Linda Wilson (DRE Representative)
Nancy Harwood (St. Charles)	Mike Yales (St. Joseph, Maybee)
Deacon Mike Ingels (St. Mary, Monroe)	
Chris Jones (St. Irene, Dundee)	
Mary Kolasinski (St. Anthony)	
Dick & Sue Lajiness (St. Anne, Monroe)	
Mary Pat Miller (St. John the Baptist)	
Kathy Stofka (St. Joseph, Erie)	
GUESTS	
John Lajiness-AOD Regional Coordinator for Evang.	

1. **New members** added to the Roster are Kathleen DeFigueiredo (St. Michael's) and Nancy Harwood (St. Charles). Retired from committee are Nancy Dietrich, Bill Doty, and Jamie and Jeannie Southers. Yvonne Davison will be on leave until January. Mary Kolasinski has agreed to be our representative on the Vicariate Pastoral Council (VPC).
2. **Minutes from 6/10/10 meeting** have been approved in June and were sent to the Vicariate Pastoral Council.
3. **John Lajiness, Archdiocese Evangelization and Catechesis Coordinator**, explained his department's outreach and support to ours, and every Vicariate of the Archdiocese. Also, "Where the Rubber Meets the Road" is an upcoming series at Sacred Heart Seminary using talks, activities, testimonies, and real-life strategies to give the tools you need to Share Christ In and Through The Church..
4. **Goals and associated Objectives** developed and revised during the June 10<sup>th</sup> meeting were reviewed and are listed below for final approval at our next meeting:  
 Goal #1: To assist the establishment, development and growth of an Evangelization Committee within each parish  
 Objectives:
  - a) Formation of parish members awareness of the Trinity and action of the Holy Spirit in their lives and community
  - b) To promote cooperative support between priest, staff and all parishioners in implementing evangelization in the parish
  - c) To develop awareness that evangelization is the umbrella under which all parish activities operate
 Goal #2: To echo through authentic Catholic teaching the call of Jesus Christ, and to encounter Him in grace through the sacraments, especially the Mass  
 Objectives:
  - a) Formation on encountering Jesus Christ in light of Vatican II
  - b) Formation for parents in their essential role of evangelization within their family
  - c) Formation to bring a realization that evangelization is the primary responsibility of all baptized persons
  - d) Formation to develop a willingness and capacity to be open and vulnerable to the will of God in spreading the Good News
 Goal #3: To build up the body of Christ by supporting the dignity of the human person, the importance of family, and the common good of the whole vicariate  
 Objectives:
  - a) To promote Pope John Paul II's call for the unity of the Church
  - b) To encourage interfaith dialog and prayer as an important aspect of unity within the body of Christ
  - c) To encourage advocacy of human dignity, family and social justice as an important way of building up the body of Christ
  - d) To encourage the cultivation of a welcoming community within and outside the parish

5. **The Program Subcommittee chaired by Gary Davis reported** that after researching the various programs discussed during earlier meetings and recommended three programs to consider for offering by our Committee this year.
- a) Called and Gifted: a three part discernment process intended to help ordinary lay Catholics in the parish discern their charisms. Attendees are led to take inventory of Catholic Spiritual Gifts and discern their own gifts and how to use their charisms to change their life, the life of others, the parish and the world. Requires a minimum of 50 participants.
  - b) Alpha Course: a basic introductory course to the Christian faith for non-churchgoers, inactive and new Christians, as well as faithful parishioners. Alpha helps lead people to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ within the context of the parish. This program works well for those 18 years and older and in groups of any size.
  - c) NET Retreat: The National Evangelization Teams challenges young Catholics to love Christ and embrace the life of the Church. The retreat can range in length from four hours to three days and are designed for young people in grades 7-12 with high-energy experiences using large group presentations, small group discussion music drama, personal faith sharing, one-on-one prayer and the sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist. Ideal group size is 60 participants, with a maximum of 150 and is directed towards teens and young adults.
  - d) Support Parish Evangelization Programs: Members offered this option to the list by the Subcommittee. This option would be to use our present budget supporting Evangelization programs already planned at parishes. Concern was raised of the possible schedule conflict between a Vicariate program and those undertaken by the parishes where Vicariate-wide participation is being sought.

After a lengthy discussion, members decided that the four program options should be presented to each parish council to get their feedback as to which program would best serve the needs of their parish. Members will then review the feedback from the parish councils at our next meeting before making a final determination on which of these three options (or combination) will be done this Fiscal Year. A talking paper for members will be prepared by the Secretary and sent to members for their presentations to the parish councils.

John Lajiness also noted that because the programs would be offered regionally, special attention must be given to the invitations, the connection to the parish, and the priests support. Anything with Youth must have the youth ministers onboard and local follow-up for them. Our committee communication with our parishes and among all parishes is critical. To be successful requires right order, prayer and sustained prayer.

6. **VPC Representative, Mary Kolasinski** reported on the last VPC meeting: topics for the Vicariate Newsletter are set for the next two years, articles may be written and submitted to coincide with the topics; the goals and budget forms are on the vicariate website and committees are requested to have them filled in and submitted by next month; the writings of John Henry Newman are recommended reading; the new GIRM begins Advent 2011; Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> will be the Mass for Catechists.
7. **Open Forum:**
- Jerry Demski remarked on the book "Rediscovering Catholicism" by Matthew Kelly. St. Michael's Men's Group has books available to offer those who are interested and will pass them on to others. Also, St. Mary's "Awakening Faith" program includes gifting Matthew Kelly's book at Christmas.
  - Dick Lajiness noted that St. Anne's will present an "Evening of Praise and Worship" on Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm; there will be music by the group "Grace on Fire", a talk on Evangelization by Dcn. Pete Cornell and individual prayer opportunity.
  - Gary Davis noted that St. Mary's Health Ministry will present "Living and Dying" Sep 30<sup>th</sup>;
  - Mary Kolasinski reported that St. Anthony's has designated the old convent to become the "Mary Magdalene House of Prayer and Evangelization" and also the Divine Mercy Center "School of Mercy" will be presented Wednesdays Sep 29<sup>th</sup> thru Nov 3<sup>rd</sup>.
8. **ACTION STEPS:**
- Gary Davis will research possible locations and costs for doing the Alpha program, should this be a selected program from our Committee.
  - Each committee member will go back to their own parish and get input from pastor and parish councils as to which of the four options noted above best serves their parish needs

**The next meeting: Thursday, November 4, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Anne Parish Hall, Monroe.**

The meeting was closed at 9:10 p.m. with prayer led by Dick Lajiness.

Respectfully Submitted:

Chris Jones