

Monroe Vicariate Pastoral Council
From October 18th, 2017 @ 7:00pm
St. Charles Borromeo – Newport, Michigan

In Attendance: Fr. David Cybulski (Vicar), Tony Latarski (AOD), Fr. Brian Hurley (Clergy Rep), Elton Hedges (Chair), Nick Craanen (Vice-Chair), Fred Fedorowicz (Treasurer), Sr. Loretta Schroeder (IHM), Christine Heinzerling (Evangelization), Jenny Fleck (Hispanic Ministry), Frank Koob (Peace & Justice), Marilyn Laboe (Vocations), Kyle Kubik (Catholic Schools), Brian Pigula (OLMC Rep), Lisa Kuhlman (Secretary).
Guests: Sr. Sharon Defever and Irasema Pena

The Meeting was opened with Liturgy of the Hours led by Fr. Cybulski.

Previous Meeting Minutes: Corrections to minutes were discussed. Minutes were approved.

Committee Reports:

Vocations: Priesthood Sunday is October 29th, 2017. The Annual Vicariate Vocations Mass will be held on Wednesday, November 8th, 2017 at 7pm at St. Charles Borromeo Church in Newport. Bishop Battersby will be presiding. All are welcome. Please join us.

Catholic Schools: The Principals meet on a monthly basis to work on new ways to market all of our Vicariate Catholic Schools together as a whole.

Evangelization & Catechesis: The Committee will meet tomorrow, October 19th, 2017 at St. John in Monroe at 7pm.

Peace & Justice: Minutes from the last meeting will be sent along shortly. Pope Francis has established the first World Day of the Poor to be Sunday, November 19th, 2017. It will be held the third Sunday of November each year going forward. There are study materials on the Peace & Justice website and Facebook pages. Such materials include bulletin articles, liturgy suggestions, and homily suggestions. The Committee respectfully asks the Vicar to please take this information to the Priest Meeting and let them know of this wonderful opportunity to encourage so many to take part in helping those in need.

Hispanic Ministry: The Hispanic Ministry just had their first fundraiser. This was a tamale sale marketed only to the Hispanic population currently and it raised \$1000.00. The Ministry is working to visit the sick as part of their efforts of New Evangelization. The ministry often has use of the St. Vincent de Paul ministry, but now is in a place where it has begun to be able to give back and help out St. Vincent de Paul which is a good feeling. Our Lady of Guadalupe feast will be celebrated at St. Mary in Monroe, in Spanish on December 10th at the 2pm Spanish Mass and in bilingual format on Tuesday, December 12th at 6:30pm. All are welcome and invited to come to this and to any celebration involving the Hispanic Community.

Jail Ministry: N/A

IHM: We are praying for all the Sisters in Puerto Rico. Please pray for the families of Sister Colleen Sheridan and Sister Joanne Witucki as these dear Sisters have very recently passed away. There has been a lot of water-damage to the choir loft and chapel. This is currently being tended to and the Chapel is being painted. Daily Mass is offered every day during the week at 9:30am. Mass is currently held downstairs under the main Chapel until repairs are complete. Due to the kindness of a wonderful group of people, all plastic and other repair items are removed to allow Saturday Mass to be celebrated in the Main Chapel. Many outside people from surrounding parishes are coming to the IHM for Sunday Mass. The Sisters have been asked to review their article about the "All Beings Exhibit".

Other Business:

A letter will go out to Pastors asking that they appoint representatives to Committees. The Vicar will send this out with a priority on all parishes have someone to represent them at the VPC. The Secretary should put together a contact list for VPC. All Committees should send Lisa a copy of their roster. (Please send to l.m.k.servant@gmail.com)

Action Items

- 1.) The Secretary will discuss with the Vicar the membership needs for the VPC so the Vicar may move forward in contacting those Parishes without representation.
- 2.) Every Committee needs to write down and send along which Parishes need representation on their Committees.
- 3.) We will begin supporting our Committees in their needs by having each Committee submit an article to the Vicariate newsletter, starting with Evangelization and Catechesis in December. Each Committee should fulfill the following informational needs with their article: What does the Committee do? Why do we do it? and What do we need? (In terms of Committee members, what traits/gifts/charisms are desirable? What kind of people do you need? Also, what do you need help doing?) Each article should also give contact information for the Committee Chair and anyone interested is to contact the Chair directly.

Other Business (Continued)

*It is important that all reps are reporting back to their Parish Councils and Pastors.

*There is discussion of Leadership Teams and Intercessory Prayer teams as put forth in *"Unleash the Gospel"*. Tony will check with the Worship Office and send along information on training for these items. There is a training coming to St. Mary, Monroe in early November.

Budget Discussion:

- Fred is in need of a checking balance from Nancy before he can finalize numbers.
- Youth and Young Adult Budgets will be split into two separate budgets going forward.
- The Administrative Budget is being reviewed by the Vicar to assess if it is too high. It is suggested that hospitality be kept at its current level and reduced next year if not used. Other items known to be a part of this budget are the Vicariate Website fees, the bookkeeper and the webmaster.
- Many do not know about Gatekeepers. It is suggested that someone from Gatekeepers reach out to all the Pastors and that Gatekeepers be given time at our next meeting so they may receive more exposure.
- The following questions came from the priests of the Vicariate for the Youth and Young Adult Committees and the Evangelization Committee respectively:
 - What is a core group retreat?
 - Are we doing fundraising for Steubenville?
 - Evangelization is bringing in speakers for \$900 in 3 out of 4 quarters. Who are these speakers being paid so generously?
- Fred will get balance, be sure all items from the previous fiscal cycle were taken out, reconcile checking and get together final overall numbers.
- Individual Committee Budgets stand approved.

Unleash the Gospel

- Watched Video
- Discussed what is happening to us as a Church.
- Talked about guideposts and Part 5 of *Unleash the Gospel*, which gives all of us something to work on.
- Discussed working in unison. (Everyone rowing together)
- Talked about this being a movement of the Holy Spirit and not a program. We looked at many ways we could evangelize person to person including: Faith Journals within the Catholic Schools, Christmas Card Project, Jazz Fest in Monroe, and Evangelization Booth at the Monroe County Fair.
- Every group has a teaching and learning year ahead. We must be sure that people see that "the doors are open". Be inviting and spend time with others. Work on our relationship with God so we can be what He calls us to be and be the light others are drawn to.
- We need to work on reflections through *Unleash the Gospel*. We should understand that each Parish will add their own flavor as they spend time with the document and the reflection guide. Let us remember: Encounter, Grow & Witness.

Evangelization Discussion

The Evangelization Committee is offered help from the Vicar to boost its numbers and get it fired back up. This would include meeting possibly twice a month. The committee rep responded that it would be awesome. The idea of a Vicariate Evangelization Project at the Monroe County Fair will also be taken to the Oct. 19th, Evangelization Meeting.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Monroe Vicariate Pastoral Council will be on Wednesday, November 15th, 2017 at 7:00pm at St. Mary, Monroe in the Social Hall.

(Minutes respectfully submitted by Lisa M. Kuhlman, MVPC Secretary)