

Genesee-Wyoming Lay Vicariate

September 13, 2010

Our Lady of Mercy, LeRoy

**Next Meeting: Monday, October 25<sup>th</sup> St. Padre Pio Parish, Our Lady of Fatima Site  
Elba Parish Center (Behind the Grotto) Please note the change in date!**

Attending: John Arent, Resurrection Parish Batavia  
Denise Spadaccia, Our Lady of Mercy, LeRoy  
James Morasco, Catholic Charities  
Kathy Warren, St. Maximillian Kolbe  
Lori Reisdorf, St. Maximillian Kolbe  
Deborah Gillen, St. Michaels Warsaw  
Pat Becker, Ascension Parish Batavia  
Barb DeFazio, St. Brigid Bergen  
Diane Schreiber, St. Isidore Perry  
Fr. Art Mattulke, St. Padre Pio Oakfield  
Kelly Pratico, St. Michael's Warsaw  
Denise Kelsey, St. Padre Pio  
Rose Mead, St. Padre Pio  
Scott Schildwaster, Resurrection Parish

Our opening prayer was led by our vicar, Father Art Mattulke.

Our new representatives to the Diocesan Vicariate Council are Denise Kelsey and Janice Wilcox.

Our present chairman John Arent has announced that he will not seek or accept nomination as chairman for the Genesee-Wyoming Lay Vicariate. Please be ready to nominate a new chairman at the next meeting.

John introduced our guest speaker, Jim Morasco (an ordained Baptist minister) who works for Catholic Charities. Jim spoke about a new Home Visitation Program, funded by a grant from the Marshall Fund, for seniors 60 and older. A trained volunteer will visit the senior weekly for non-medical assistance and telephone reassurance. Jim also spoke about the Crop Walk with local proceeds going to Community Action and the LeRoy Pantry. Tom Rivers is the honorary chairman. This year Catholics can designate that the money they contributed will go to Catholic Relief Services. This apparently is in response to withdrawal of support from the Diocese of Buffalo and others due to Crop Walk's connection to Planned Parenthood. Other programs include a Kinship Caregiver Program (for relatives caring for children separated from their parents) and the Our Kids Program (a parent education and awareness program.)

Father Art spoke about a program the Diocese has hired the Cunneen group to conduct throughout the Diocese over a period of two years. Parishes will participate in a 12 week program designed to increase the collections and participation in every parish. Stewardship in Faith took place about eleven years ago increasing giving but collections have slipped back to what they were before that program. Cunneen guarantees that the offertory will increase and the fee for this program is based on the parish's increase. (For example: if there is no increase the entire fee is refunded.) The program includes talks by parishioners and the pastor.

The closing Mass for the Year of the Priest was well attended and most people stopped in the school for the refreshments.

Father Art also mentioned that the youth program is still on the agenda for the Priests Vicariate. He felt that it might be a matter of committing funds to this program in this difficult economy.

We have been asked to get the information for Religious Education in our parishes and bring to the next meeting.

Thanks were expressed to John Arent for his leadership of the Lay Vicariate. He will stay on as a representative from Resurrection Parish and will be glad to assist the new leader.

The Annulment program and Evangelization Program mentioned last month will be pushed to next year due to a lack of time for planning. The Come and See program is undergoing renovation. This remains a future topic also.

Please spend some time with John's first try at a Mission Statement. We will come back to that next meeting to tweak it.

The Lay Vicariate generally meets five times a year: January, March, May, September and November with the January meeting usually in Batavia. Next year's schedule will also be on the agenda.

If you do not receive the email with the agenda and the minutes, please call Nancy Bow at Padre Pio Parish (585-948-5344) and give her your information. The minutes are also available on the Vicariate page of the Padre Pio website. Go to [www.padrepio.org](http://www.padrepio.org) and click on the "G-W Vicariate". There is a link on the page for sending an email with information for posting your parish events. Please publish the Padre Pio website Vicariate page in your bulletin. We need the information for events in your parish for the Vicariate page of the Padre Pio website.

Coming events:

Padre Pio Oktoberfest – October 16<sup>th</sup>

St Maximillian Kolbe Roast Beef Dinner – October 17<sup>th</sup>

Fr. Art led us in a concluding prayer and refreshments were served.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pat Becker