

Genesee-Wyoming Lay Vicariate

January 25, 2010

Resurrection Parish

St. Joseph School Annex

Next meeting: Monday March 29th, 7:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Good Counsel Hall in Darien

Father Art Matulke, Vicar of Genesee and Wyoming counties led us in an opening prayer that emphasized respect of life.

We took a moment for everyone to introduce themselves.

The St. Padre Pio Parish website (www.padrepiony.org) now has a page for the Genesee Wyoming Vicariate. There is a link to submit parish activities, social and spiritual.

We would like to develop our own version of the Come and See program to reach out to people disenfranchised from the faith for whatever reason. This could also help their families to not push them farther away. John Arent told of talking with someone who went to 15 different churches before coming back to the Catholic Church.

The Vicariate-wide Mass for priests was discussed and Fr. Art suggested the feast of St. John Vianney in November. This Mass will use the same concept as the Jubilee 2000 Mass. Liz Saleh suggested June 13th (the Sunday before Father's Day.) A tentative time of 2:00 p.m. was settled on, with punch and cookies to be served after. We need to look for bakers. Mark Hoerbelt will be in charge of the music. Lay Vicariate Chairman John Arent will chair the Mass and pull together the volunteer efforts. Those in charge of parts of the Mass are: Reception coordinated by the Sodality at St. Joseph's – Kathy Saville, Liturgy of the Word – Liz Saleh. We will need Lectors, altar servers, gift bearers, greeters/ushers. There will be no collection. John Arent will invite the Bishop. Richard Canale will contact the Knights of Columbus. Contact information for John Arent: 344-0481 (home) and 343-1300 ext.16 (work).

The Annulment program has traditionally been our best attended Lay Vicariate Meeting. Emphasis has now changed to a peer based annulment group of trained volunteers who help the person seeking an annulment navigate through the process. We need to see when that training is scheduled and start a group in our Vicariate.

Tom Lynch said that parents who aren't practicing the faith are not good role models for their children and that's why we lose them by late grade school. Fr. Art said that we have to look at ourselves as a church: what do we have to offer the youth? This is why we are starting the Vicariate youth program. Tom Lynch mentioned that he was encouraged by all the youth that participated in the National March for Life. It was mentioned that we need the clergy to understand the importance of speaking out

about the right to life. The Right to Life party is still a valid party in New York State. It is not much of a force anymore and Tom Lynch asked us to consider joining the party. The US conference of Catholic Bishops has provided post cards and we need to encourage family and friends to vote out of office those legislators who do not support right to life.

It was also mentioned again to let the pastor know when we have a family member in a nursing home or hospital. St. Padre Pio Parish has a form to give nursing homes. We need to encourage all parishes to put this in their bulletins. One idea suggested was to put index cards in the pews for a family member to fill out and put in the collection.

The date has been set for the chicken barbecues at Immaculate Conception in East Bethany: 4/18/10, 5/16/10 and 6/6/10.

Confirmation dates have been set: Monsignor Slubecky on May 13th for the Batavia parishes and Padre Pio parish, and May 19th for Pavilion, East Bethany, LeRoy and Bergen.

St. Padre Pio Parish has formed a Prayer Group that meets the first Monday of the month and alternates sites and times: 2/1/10 at Elba following the 8:00 a.m. Mass, 3/1/10 at St. Cecilia site at 7 p.m., 4/5/10 at Elba following the 8 a.m. Mass and so on.

The meeting was closed with prayer.

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Respectfully submitted,
Pat Becker
Vice Chairman