

Genesee-Wyoming Lay Vicariate
November 16, 2009
Ascension Parish
Sacred Heart Social Center

Next meeting: Monday January 25th, 2010, at Resurrection Parish, St. Mary's site 7:00 p.m.

Our Vicar, Father Art Matulke, read the Gospel for Sunday, the Feast of Christ the King. Attendees then spoke about what the Gospel meant to them.

Everyone introduced themselves and gave their new and old parish names. We were asked to call the parish office at St. Joseph's if we can't attend a meeting.

Chairman John Arent would like every parish represented and ideally each site of the parish would have a representative. He welcomed the Wyoming county representatives.

Through a mix-up our speaker was not in attendance but a volunteer for Crossroads House spoke. Residents have a diagnosis of 3 months left to live. Families are welcomed and there accommodations for the family to stay. They are encouraged to live life to the fullest with their loved one. It depends totally on donations from the public, they take no government money. Patient insurance may cover medications and oxygen but that is all.

Meetings were set for next year. (Meetings will continue on Mondays to accommodate Father Art's schedule.) They are:

Monday, January 25th at Resurrection Parish, St. Mary's site. The following goals will be discussed:

- 1) Vicariate-wide Mass for Priests
- 2) Web site
- 3) Peer based Annulment Program
- 4) Our own version of "Come and See" – we would like to use our own resources for this program rather than bring people in
- 5) Mission statement

Monday, March 29th at Our Lady of Good Counsel in Darien

Monday, May 10th (this date may be subject to change depending on the date for Confirmation) at St. Cecilia's in Sheldon or St. Mary's in Strykersville

Sunday, August 1st St. Isadore's in Perry (St Joseph site) Lay Vicariate and Priest Vicariate at 5:00 p.m. gathering and dinner

Monday, September 13th Our Lady of Mercy in LeRoy.

Monday, November 8th Padre Pio Parish, Our Lady of Fatima site.

Suggestions for meeting speakers will be covered at future meetings.

Father Art talked about the website and to keep control of the site a link will be made from the Padre Pio Parish website.

For parishes still contemplating web sites, pastors can contact Computer Services at the Diocese: Jim Cavanaugh at 716-847-5598.

Any information can be emailed to secretary, Nancy Bow at Padre Pio Parish. Their website is: www.padrepiony.org

A question was raised about what a Vicar is. Father Art explained that the Bishop is the Episcopal Vicar of the Diocese. The Vicariates are subdivisions of the Diocese and the Vicar represents the Bishop in that area.

Father then spoke about the Youth Coordinator for the Vicariate. The Vicariate will be broken down into 5 clusters. The paid director will not run the parish programs. Every parish will contribute towards the pay of the director. Volunteers will run the programs in the parishes as they do now. Father would like to have the position in place by summer.

Wyoming County has WACY (pronounced "wacky"), the Wyoming Association of Catholic Youth. Activities they sponsored included golf at Archie's, a trip to St. Luke's Mission of Mercy, and a barn Mass on December 6th.

With the addition of Wyoming County we have three representatives to the Diocesan Vicariate Meeting which will only allow 2. Father Art has suggested naming two new people, one from each county.

Father Art also brought up the fact that a group is calling for the end of support for the Campaign for Human Development collection due to some issues of what they are funding. The group is not mentioning that the projects in question have been stripped of their funding. The Chairman of CCHD has sent a letter to all Bishops stating that they have defunded these groups and are being vigilant about what they are funding.

Father stated that every parish should have a Pro-Life Movement.

The meeting was ended with group petitions and the praying of the Our Father.

Respectfully,

Pat Becker
Vice-Chairman