

Genesis Vicariate Newsletter

~ MAY 2011 EDITION ~

A LETTER FROM THE VICAR

Dear Genesis Vicariate Parishioners,

The fifty days of the Easter Season are meant to capture our awareness that we are redeemed – no longer bound up or buried by sin. Each parish community has its own traditions during the Easter Season but the common reality is our proclamation that Jesus Christ is Lord!

As our Vicariate planning intensifies this month by beginning to look into what the Archdiocese of Detroit calls the "internal data" of each parish. This information includes the best practices of your parish with regard to your buildings and your footprint in the neighborhood. In other words, if your parish wasn't there, who would do the kind of ministry that your parish offers? Who would offer food to the hungry, comfort for the sick or homebound in nursing facilities, or offer Mass for those without the benefit of transportation? Also included in this month's study is our parish history of fiscal responsibility. Has our parish incurred a debt to the Archdiocese of Detroit or our insurance company known as the Michigan Catholic Conference? If we do have a debt, how do we intend to pay it back? If we have money in the bank, how might we be good stewards of that money?

Make good use of these fifty days of the Easter Season by praying for those newly baptized at Easter – our neophytes. Help these newest members of our church understand their participation in the Body of Christ.

Msgr. LeFevre
Vicar, Genesis Vicariate



ST. FLORIAN STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL ~ May 7 & 8, delicious Polish foods, Polkas & Continental Music, Strawberry Bakery, Raffles, Games. Dance & Dine in our church hall or heated tent. Polish Muslims Saturday from 5-9 pm; Walt Cieslak 5-11 pm. Firefighter's Parade & Mass, May 7, 3:30 pm. For details, please call (313) 770-9349 or go to www.stflorianparish.org.

Q of A 1955 FIRST COMMUNION REUNION ~ If you (or someone you know) made their First Holy Communion on May 15, 1955 at Queen of Apostles, Hamtramck; you're invited to celebrate with the 2011 First Holy Communicants on that very same day, May 15th, at 12 Noon Mass. Please contact Alfreda (Kowalski) Kudla at (313) 891-5942 for further information.

ST. RAYMOND ANNUAL CARD PARTY ~ Sunday, May 15th from 1 - 4 pm in the Community Center at 20045 Joann, Detroit. Raffle, 50/50 and more! \$7 admission includes lunch and raffle. Secured parking. To reserve your tickets, for more details or additional information please call (313) 527-0525.

"WHY THE FIG LEAF? God, Sex & Sensibility - A Theology of the Body Conference for our Times"

A Theology of the Body Conference presented by the Archdiocese of Detroit Department of Evangelization, Catechesis and Schools. What is the connection between body and soul? Why were we created male and female? How do we find the happiness and true greatness that we long for? This conference will answer these questions and more through a variety of keynote speakers, breakout sessions and personal testimonies. It will introduce and unpack John Paul II's Theology of the Body. Featured Keynote speakers: Dr. Janet Smith, Bill Donaghy & Dr. Mary Healy. Breakout Topics: "Raising children for chastity", "Sex and the single adult", "Transforming your relationships and the culture" and more. This conference is for anyone wanting to understand and experience more fully the love that God has for each one of us. To register, go to their website: www.aodonline.org/TheologyoftheBody. Includes a continental breakfast and lunch. For more information contact the Archdiocesan Marriage and Family Ministry office at (313) 237-5894.

SHARING THE LIGHT - A Message from Archbishop Vigneron ~ To maximize the efficiency of providing Catholic works of charity and to improve the effectiveness of service delivery to children, families & seniors, Archbishop Vigneron is leading an effort to join the five county-based Catholic social services agencies operating in the six counties of the Detroit Archdiocese into a single Catholic Charities of Southeast MI. It's the Archbishop's intent for the five separate agencies to develop joint pastoral aims for the new, archdiocesan-wide social services entity and transition to a full coordination of programs and services. A special bulletin announcement containing a letter from the Archbishop regarding Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan is available for download at: www.aodonline.org/bulletins. An accompanying set of questions and answers are posted there as well. If you don't have a computer, ask your pastor for the information.

EVANGELIZATION SERIES ~ "Where the Rubber Meets the Road" Practical Strategies for Everyday Evangelization (now in its 6th year!) will be focusing on "hands-on learning" for Evangelization. There'll be Role Playing; Discussions on Concrete Situations & Family Evangelization. Each "stand-alone" presentation is held at Sacred Heart. For more information call (313) 237-5832. A freewill donation is requested to cover costs. May 7th is the final presentation in the series.

SOUP KITCHEN HELP APPEAL ~ All Saints Soup Kitchen is adding Thursday to their meal schedule. There's groups to supply, prepare & serve the food on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Thursdays of each month; they're hoping to find additional parishes or groups, such as K of C groups, who would be willing to bring food, prepare and serve it on unscheduled the 1st & 5th Thursdays of the month. Groups are welcome to take as few days (once a year) or as many (once a month) as they wish. The Soup Kitchen is open from 11 am - 12:30 pm. Those cooking the meal would need to be there from 8 am until 1 pm. Those serving the meal arrive at 10 am. If you have a group of people who would like to make a real difference in the lives of the less fortunate, here's your chance! Contact Denise Balogh, Outreach Director at (313) 841-1428 ext. 5.

FOR WIDOWED MEN & WOMEN ~ Dinner, Support, Social & Conversation! Join *Widowed Friends*, a peer group in the AOD, starting at 5 pm for social time and "Family Style" dinner at 6 pm on Friday, May 13th at the American Polish Cultural Center, 2975 E. Maple (15 Mile & Dequindre) in Troy. Stay for conversation and cards until 9 pm. Cost is \$14 (cash only), payable at the door. Includes meal, coffee and tea (cash bar and deserts extra). Please RSVP to Mary Ann at (586) 939-5270 or Sally at (586) 575-9535 by May 10th.

SPIRITUAL EXCERSISES INFORMATION SESSION ~ Manresa Jesuit Retreat House - Wednesday, May 18, 7 - 8:30 pm. Have you heard about the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius and wondered what they are about? Has a friend ever said, "The Exercises were a life changing experience for me!" and you wanted to know more? Has someone you know recommended that you make the Spiritual Exercises? Join others who are interested in learning more about the Spiritual Exercises prayed in the setting of daily life. The evening will give an overview of this 9 - 10 month retreat and a deeper understanding of how God may be working in your life. There is no fee and details of the application process will also be discussed. For details or other Retreat information, please call (248) 644-4933. They offer Conference, Topical and Individually-directed retreats year-round, for men & women on a variety of subjects.

NOTE: Current 'Together In Faith' Vicariate planning information, meeting minutes, newsletters and downloadable files are available on the Genesis Vicariate website - www.GenesisVPC.org.

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