

5. Out of those meetings, the Diocesan Coordinating Commission was appointed in December, 2005. The purpose of the Commission was “to ensure that the pastoral, sacramental and leadership needs of our people were met wherever they are”.
6. About five years had passed since the PAT. Each parish and each school were asked to complete a self inventory which was later reviewed by committees in the respective regions of the diocese. The final plan, Planning Tomorrow’s Churches, was promulgated on September 15, 2008. Implementation had already begun.
7. Implementation continues with parish and school restructuring. Parishes are working on updated parish pastoral plans which will carry them through the next 3-5 years.
8. The Diocesan Pastoral Council continues to advise the Office of Pastoral Planning on the implementation of our diocesan pastoral plan and Planning Tomorrow’s Churches.

This work continues to be accomplished through continual prayer and the willingness of many individuals across the diocese and from central offices in Lansing who have graciously given of their time and talent. The leadership of Bishops Mengeling and Boyea in these initiatives was imperative and deeply appreciated by all. On this 10th anniversary, know that the staff of the Office of Pastoral Planning is grateful to all who assisted this ministry in any way and asks once again for God’s blessing on each of you.

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TEN YEARS AND COUNTING ... A REPORT TO THE CHURCH OF LANSING

The Office of Pastoral Planning celebrated its 10th anniversary on October 4, 2009, established by Bishop Carl Mengeling “to continually listen, surface needs, assess resources, plan and implement a faith-filled response.” The urgency to plan for the future of our parishes was explicit in John Paul II’s *Novo Millennio Ineunte*: “... the programme of the Gospel must continue to take root, as it has always done, in the life of the Church everywhere. It is in the local churches that the specific features of a detailed pastoral plan can be identified -- goals and methods, formation and enrichment of the people involved, the search for the necessary resources -- which will enable the proclamation of Christ to reach people, mould communities, and have a deep and incisive influence in bringing Gospel values to bear in society and culture. I therefore earnestly exhort the Pastors of the particular Churches, with the help of all sectors of God’s People, confidently to plan the stages of the journey ahead, harmonizing the choices of each diocesan community with those of neighbouring Churches and of the universal Church.”

In the Diocese of Lansing, we responded this way.

1. In fall, 1999 and spring 2000, 4 regional missions were held in celebration of the Great Jubilee. The purpose was to deepen faith and spirituality in all our Catholics and to invite/encourage inactive Catholics to full and active participation in our local churches.
2. The pastoral planning process began in fall, 2000. A Diocesan Strategic Pastoral Planning Commission was appointed and the process began. 700+ facilitators were trained and listening sessions were held in 94 of our 97 parishes, asking: what were the challenges, issues and opportunities facing the Church of Lansing (VOICES). Data from all listening sessions was compiled and fashioned into our Diocesan Pastoral Plan, promulgated during Common Conference 2002.
3. A parish assessment tool (PAT) was designed using data from the listening sessions. Each parish was asked to assess its life and mission in light of the newly promulgated pastoral plan. Parish pastoral plans were finalized and implementation began soon thereafter.
4. In October, 2005, study days were held outlining clergy demographics/projections and population shifts throughout our 10 county diocese. The question: how should we address the realities of a declining number of clergy and shifting population?

CATHOLIC CHARITIES



RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

Recalling Mary's perseverance at the Cross, Pope Benedict recently said, "Faith in God must be expressed in concrete actions, lest it prove insufficient for our salvation." He said that there are two crucial questions that the Gospel places before us, "Who is Jesus of Nazareth for you?" and "Does your faith translate into works or not?"

Each of us must consider these questions as they apply to our lives. Do we reach out in love to those less fortunate than ourselves? Do we pass by the person in need of our help thinking that someone else will take care of them? Often we miss opportunities that God has placed in our path because we are unaware of the opportunity to translate our faith into good works.

Please consider those that are in prison or on parole. There is a great need for support and care. To learn how you may be able to translate your faith into good works, contact the Office of Restorative Justice at 517-342-2495.

DEAF/HH MINISTRY

The 2009-10 ASL and Interpreted Mass schedule for the Deaf/HH community is now available on the Diocese of Lansing website. Go to: Dioceseoflansing.org; then click on Offices and Ministries – Alphabetical list; then click on Catholic Deaf/HH Ministry. Masses are listed under the name of the City where the church is located. If you know of a Church that has interpreted Masses but is not listed here, please contact Rose Smith at rsmith@dioceseoflansing.org

FAMILY LIFE

Catholic Charities Agencies throughout the diocese will now be offering the program "Smart Steps for Step Families" This will be incorporated into the Marriage Preparation offerings for couples entering into a Catholic marriage after an annulment, or second marriage. Contact the Family Life office for scheduling details at 517-342-2471.

PERSONS WITH DIS / ABILITIES

Christians Concerned about Mental Illness-Meetings are held the 4th Tuesday of each month from noon to 1:00pm in the Diocesan Center, Lansing. Meetings are a chance to pray and share our stories. Call or e-mail Joann Davis at 517-342-2497, jdavis@dioceseoflansing.org For more information visit our website at: <http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/disAbilities/index.html>

Ministry with Persons with disAbilities Calendar for 2009/2010 events is available on our website at: <http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/disAbilities/index.html>

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING

Note: There will be a charge of \$ 10.00 per couple for all Introduction to Natural Family Planning classes. All couples register with the Natural Family Planning Office before taking the class. All checks should be made out and mailed to: Diocese of Lansing, 300 W. Ottawa Street, Lansing, MI 48933.

Introduction to Natural Family Planning Classes

The Introduction to Natural Family Planning classes will be offered as follows:

- Saturday, October 24, 2009 at 10:00am at St. Mary Parish, Charlotte,
- Sunday, November 08, 2009 at 2:00pm at St. Mary Star of the Sea Parish, in Jackson Michigan
- Tuesday, November 26, 2009 at 7:30pm at St. Joseph Parish, in Howell, Michigan

Pre-registration is required for all participants. For more information contact: NFP Program at 517-342-2587 or nfp@dioceseoflansing.org.

NFP CLASSES OFFERED IN THE DIOCESE

In the Diocese of Lansing, several methods of Natural Family Planning are taught. Pre-registration is required for the following classes:

Family of Americas Ovulation Method:

Call the NFP Office to register for class: (517) 342-2587.

Sympto-Thermal Method: taught by Couple to Couple League (CCL) Most Holy Trinity Parish – Fr. Ray Youth Center. Call Neil & Amber Feldpausch at (810) 282-2371 to attend. Registration is required.

Creighton Model Fertility Care System: Call Amanda Venema at (517) 242-3710 or e-mail: venemafamily@cablespeed.com, or The Caritas Center in Ypsilanti, Mary Bieniasz, at (734) 712-1990.

Billings Ovulation Method: call Maria - (517) 523-3526 for class information.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

The Office of Restorative Justice is concerned with all aspects of the continuum of crime and incarceration. As a church, we are concerned for the spiritual, physical and emotional needs of all. In the USCCB statement on Responsibility, Rehabilitation, and Restoration, the Bishops remind us that our work is to focus on the restoration of “a sense of civility and responsibility to everyday life, and promote crime prevention and genuine rehabilitation.”

The Office of Restorative Justice works to move the hearts of the Catholic community to recognize victims of crime, those incarcerated and their families as brothers and sisters. This office seeks to treat all persons involved with, or touched by crime as worthy of time, compassion and spiritual healing. Also to create programs necessary to facilitate restitution and rehabilitation.

Specifically, this office targets the needs of the ex-offender, offenders under sentence, victims of offenders and families of offenders. Restoration to society as a productive member for the ex-offender, counsel and support for victims, support and reunification with the offender, if possible, for families, and the benefit of the sacraments for those incarcerated are the primary goals of this office. Additionally, we seek to move the hearts of all toward forgiveness, understanding the need for sanction. The existence of mandatory sentencing guidelines does not allow for discretion in sentencing and ignores the “spirit of the law.” Sentencing children to life in prison without parole does not recognize the person’s ability to rehabilitate or the mental/emotional development of the child. Contact Tim Metts at (517) 342-2495 for further information.

FAMILIES ‘UNDER SIEGE’ BY DIVORCE, POPE SAYS

Noting that “families are beleaguered and under siege,” Pope Benedict XVI called upon Church leaders to support the natural family, “founded upon marriage, a conjugal alliance in which man and woman mutually give and receive.”

Pope Benedict said that pastoral support for family life is vital today because “the secularized world is dominated by profound uncertainty” on the question of what constitutes authentic marriage and family life. That uncertainty, he added, is most evident in countries where divorce had become accepted.

The results of widespread divorce have been devastating, the Holy Father pointed out, with the consequences most harmful for the children of broken homes. He said that “the majority of those who feel orphaned are not children without parents but children with a surplus of parents.”

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POPE’S STRONG WITNESS TO MARRIAGE

Marriage and the family are institutions that must be promoted and defended from every possible misrepresentation of their true nature, since whatever is injurious to them is injurious to society itself.” This is just one of many of Pope Benedict’s decisive statements on the unique good of marriage and the family, recently gathered into a new volume of USCCB Publishing’s “Pope Benedict XVI – Spiritual Thoughts Series,” this time on the “Family.” The timely publication of this new volume collects in one place the Pope’s strong teaching and witness to the unique value and truth of marriage and the family. The pope addresses the range of teaching on marriage and strategically zeroes in on the unique nature of marriage as the union of one man and one woman.

NEW LIFE

New Life is a faith-based movement whose mission is to provide the necessary spiritual, emotional and physical needs of recent parolees to the Lansing area.

New Life provides mentoring, direct aid and encouragement to ex-offenders. They are encouraged to attend church services and volunteers provide transportation to those services.

A primary focus of the program is a fourteen week class called “Image”. This is a self esteem building program which has been specifically modified to address the needs of ex-offenders. The program runs continuously and a parolee may begin at any point in the program to complete the fourteen weeks.

The output services provided include mentoring, employment assistance, clothing, groceries, medications needed and housing. They are assisted in obtaining job training and those skills necessary to function in society. New Life identifies success through a reduction in recidivism from the current rate of over fifty per cent.

New Life cannot succeed without the generous support of volunteers. Without our support, the people coming out of prison will not succeed. They have done their time. It is now time for us to use our expertise to assist those willing to work with us giving a helping hand through volunteering, mentoring and giving our love and compassion. In addition to New Life, there are other aftercare organizations in other cities of the diocese. Regeneration - Beginning Anew is in Jackson and REAP - Re-entry After Prison is in Adrian. Also, there are efforts in Flint and Washtenaw areas.

CATECHIST FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

Check the webpage of the [Office of Catechesis](#) frequently for updates on catechist formation opportunities throughout the Diocese of Lansing.

Catechist Formation at Holy Family, Grand Blanc:

October 29—Topic 3, Lesson Planning/Using the Catechist Text as a Tool.

Presenter: Peggy Wescott

November 5—Topic 5, Managing Student Behavior

Presenter: Gina Moskal

All classes will be held in the school in the Adult Education Room from 7:00-9:00 pm. Please use the main entrance to the school located behind the church at 215 Orchard Street, Grand Blanc, MI 48439. Call 810-694-9072, Ext. 101 or Ext.151 or e-mail jschichtel@holymfamilygrandblanc.org OR jgravel@holymfamilygrandblanc.org

The registration form is available from the Office of Catechesis webpage.

Catechist Formation at Saint Paul, Owosso:

October 26 Mary and the Saints (7:00-9:00) Fr. Nonatus Lakra (Catechists may receive credit for topic #10). Devotions to Mary in India and other parts of the world will be explored. Modern martyrs in certain countries will help with an understanding of present-day persecutions of Catholic Christians around the world.

(continued next page)

EDUCATION AND CATECHESIS

NEW! SECONDARY RELIGION CURRICULUM

Bishop Boyea has approved a new high school theology/religion curriculum for use in both school and parish based religious education. The document is found on the webpages of the Office of Catechesis and the Office of Catholic Schools.

In reviewing the curriculum, note that the statements in bold are considered essential concepts that are intended for both parish and school religious education. The objectives in normal typeface are also to be used in school programs. They may be incorporated into parish religious education to the degree possible.

Special thanks to the members of the Secondary Religion Curriculum Institute and to Sustaining Pastoral Excellence for their great generosity in supporting the mission of Catholic education.

For further information on the High School Religion Curriculum and its content, use and implementation, please contact: Sally Amman, Director of Curriculum and Instructional Programs, samman@dioceseoflansing.org; Michael Andrews, Director of Catechesis, mandrews@dioceseoflansing.org; or Patrick Rinker, Director of Youth, Young Adult and Campus Ministries prinker@dioceseoflansing.org.

MICHIGAN WINTER GATHERING

Save the date! The Michigan Winter Gathering of catechetical leaders will be held on January 7-8, 2010 at Bethany House, Dewitt.

YOUTH MINISTRY BASIC TRAINING:

Basic Training in youth ministry for adults and teens continues on Monday evenings at St. John Student Center in East Lansing with the second session.

Monday, October 12, 27, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Church: Mission & Ministry, presented by Jack Armstrong, CYM and Adult Formation, St. Jude, DeWitt

Monday, October 19, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Understanding youth culture and Working with Small Groups, presented by Jacki Popadich, DRE, Holy Redeemer, Burton

Monday, October 26, 7:00 -9:00 p.m. Youth Ministry Planning, presented by Pete Fiero, CYM, St.Martha, Okemos

<http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/youthministry/index.html>

YOUTH COMMITTEES MEETINGS

The Diocesan Youth Advisory Committee and the three youth committees, DYLC, Jamboree and Rally, will meet Saturday, December 12, 10:00 AM – Lunch at Holy St. Mary, Chelsea.

EDUCATION AND CATECHESIS

ADVICE ABOUT NOVEL A (H1N1) VIRUS IN SCHOOLS AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAMS

According to several county health departments, the Novel A (H1N1) influenza (previously referred to as swine flu) is a new form of flu which began infecting people in April. It is expected to infect many this school year. Due to the rapid onslaught of this flu, no one is certain how serious it may be. It appears that infants, children and young adults have the least natural immunity and will need to follow precautions most closely.

The diocesan schools have installed a three-step process to try to prevent the spread of H1N1:

1. Isolation: If a student complains of flu-like symptoms while at school, the student will be removed from the classroom and requested to wear a mask until a parent picks him/her up. This is to contain the virus from spreading to others.
2. Communication: A series of communications to students, parents and school employees detailing the latest information about prevention will be available on a regular basis. This includes flyers, posters, E-mails, and instruction.
3. Supplies: Each school should have an adequate supply of tissues, hand sanitizers, disinfectants and masks.

The following are health-related data-tracking Web sites on the H1N1 virus:

- www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/flugallery/2009-10/pdf/h1n1_take_3.pdf
- Novel h1n1 Flu (Swine Flu): Taking Care of a Sick Person in Your Home www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/guidancehomecare.htm
- Center for Disease Control and Prevention www.cdc.gov/flu and www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu
- Michigan Department of Community Health www.michigan.gov/flu
- Department of Health and Human Services www.flu.gov
- Childhood Influenza Coalition www.preventchildhoodinfluenza.org
- Families Fighting Flu www.familiesfightingflu.org
- www.flu.gov/professional/community/cfboguidance.html

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING RETREAT

The 2010 Catholic Social Teaching Retreat will be held at Bethany House at St. Francis Retreat Center, DeWitt. The cost of participation, for both youth and adult participants, is \$90.00 which includes the conference material, meals and overnight accommodations. Deadline to register is December 3, 2009. For more information go to the youth ministry web page. <http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/youthministry/index.html>

CATECHIST FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

(continued)

November 2 - Saints, Souls, and Eternal Life (7:00-9:00) Michael Andrews (Catechists may receive credit for topic #10). Continued reflection on the saints leads us to reflect the fate of all souls. The nature of death, judgment, heaven, hell, and purgatory will be developed in the light of the Church's teachings.

November 9 - Faith (7:00-9:00) Janet Cassidy. (Catechists may receive credit for topic #6). The biblical and church teachings on faith will be explored. The faith journey may include times of crisis and doubt. There are community and ecclesial dimensions in the faith of Catholics.

November 16 - Mystery of the Triune God (7:00-9:00) Fr. John Fain (Catechists may receive credit for topic #7). The Trinity is a mystery of faith. This session will explore what is revealed about God through scripture, and in the teachings and prayer of the Church.

Register by phone (989-723-1400) or by e mail (gmoskal@spsowosso.org). Leave your name and phone where you may be reached. (Donation \$10 for out-of-St.-Paul-Parish).

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2011

Information for the Diocesan group going to Madrid, Spain in August of 2011 is on the Diocesan web pages for youth, young adult and campus ministry. Information for groups from St. Francis AA, St. John, Davison, and Siena Heights University will be posted as information arrives. <http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/youthministry/index.html>

YOUTH MINISTRY

**JAMBOREE 2009
R.O.C.K.**

**(Rely On Christ the King)
Sunday, November 1, 2009
Lansing Center**

Keynote speaker: Bob Rice,
author of song, "Will There be
Hand Motions in Heaven". He
comes to us from Steubenville
and is an excellent speaker.

Featured speaker: Deacon Ron
Kenney, a wonderful youth
ministry leader
in our diocese for many years

Workshop presenters include:
Jared Ambroiser; Deacon Jim
Corder; Emily Crockett; Noelle
Garcia; Mary Lou Hahn-Setta;
Teresa Hurd; Ron Landfair;
Doug Moore; Pat Rinker

Music with Thicker Than
Water and Youth Fusion

Mass with Bishop Boyea and
other priests from our diocese
conciliation, organized by Jack
Armstrong with priests from
our diocese

Also: Metro Inflatables; Dance
music with Jon Roty; Great
food, fun and faith.

Registration materials are
available from the Youth
Ministry website at [http://
www.dioceseoflansing.org/
youthministry/index.html](http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/youthministry/index.html)

SAFE ENVIRONMENT

SHIELD THE VULNERABLE: A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

Shield the Vulnerable [STV] is dedicated to raising awareness of abuse and neglect, and providing training and resources to help protect the most vulnerable members of our communities. Shield the Vulnerable provides ". . .innovative, state-specific, online training. . .to teach adults who interact with children, youth and elders how to recognize, report and prevent abuse or neglect."

Effective immediately, Shield the Vulnerable (STV) is the online safe environment training program being used in the Diocese of Lansing. STV is for adult volunteers who interact with children and youth or with the vulnerable and who are unable to attend a "live" VIRTUS Protecting God's Children for Adults Awareness Session. STV courses are available in both English and Spanish. The volunteer will register themselves for the STV course. A valid e-mail address is required.

Praesidium Called to Protect for Youth opt-out form is available. It is to be sent to parents/guardians along with the "Description of the Program" which is in the Praesidium manual, last five pages of the "Resources" tab. The opt-out form will not be posted at the Diocese of Lansing website.

E-mail Sally Ellis, Safe Environment Coordinator, [sellis@
dioceseoflansing.org](mailto:sellis@dioceseoflansing.org) for STV registration instructions and the opt-out form for Praesidium Called to Protect for Youth.

VIRTUS FACILITATOR TRAINING

will be held March 12-13, 2010, at Bethany House, DeWitt, MI. It begins 6:00 p.m. Friday, March 12 and ends 5:00 p.m., Saturday, March 13

Qualifications for facilitator candidates:

- attended one Protecting God's Children Awareness Session for Adults
- complete a background check
- public speaking ability
- background in education, social work, psychology, counseling or criminal justice helpful, but not necessary

Contact Sally Ellis, Diocese of Lansing Safe Environment Coordinator, 517-342-2551, for application form.

Parishes, schools, and agencies are encouraged to have a certified VIRTUS facilitator on site. The diocese covers the cost of the training, including Facilitator Manual, overnight accommodation at Bethany House, dinner Friday evening at 7:00 p.m., breakfast Saturday at 8:30 a.m., and lunch Saturday at noon.

FORMATION

VIANNEY - CURE OF ARS IS COMING TO OUR AREA!

This one-man stage production, VIANNEY, is a story of perseverance against all odds - the story of a humble pastor with a passion for souls. "It is my prayer that when people meet John Vianney, they will, just like the people of Ars, be transformed by his life, story and message," says Leonardo Defilippis. "I know that young men looking for a radical way of serving God will be drawn to the priesthood through his example."

The Diocese of Lansing tour is slated for March 27 - March 31. Holy Spirit, Hamburg has booked Saturday, March 27, 2010. Other scheduled dates in our area are: Gabriel Richard High School, Ann Arbor on March 22, 2010 & Sacred Heart Major Seminary on March 23, 2010. For more information or to book Vianney at your parish please go to www.vianneydrama.com

FROM THE U.S. BISHOPS ON HEALTHCARE

Three chairmen of the U.S. Bishops' committees working on health care reform urged the U.S. Congress to improve current health care reform legislation, expressing their "disappointment that progress has not been made on the three priority criteria for health care reform" cited in their previous letters.

The October 8 letter from Bishop William Murphy, Cardinal Justin Rigali and Bishop John Wester reiterated the bishops' main concerns: that no one should be forced to pay for or participate in an abortion, that health care should be affordable and available to the poor and vulnerable, and that the needs of legal immigrants are met.

The full text of the letter can be viewed and downloaded from the USCCB website at <http://www.usccb.org/sdwp/national/2009-10-08-healthcare-letter-congress.pdf>

FROM THE MCC

Urge Governor Granholm to Sign DHS Budget

The Michigan House of Representatives and the State Senate recently passed the Department of Human Services conference report for fiscal year 2010. Both Democrats and Republicans voted in favor of this budget, which allocates spending for programs that benefit the state's poorest citizens. Michigan Catholic Conference was successful in advocating for the preservation of the FIP grant (welfare) and the children's clothing allowance. The DHS budget also included important foster care reforms that places the welfare of children first.

Michigan Catholic Conference is asking for phone calls to Governor Granholm's office urging her to sign the DHS conference report passed by the Legislature. The governor's office may be contacted at (517) 335-7858

VOICES ALIVE TO PUBLISH ELECTRONIC EDITION ONLY

Effective with the January, 2009 edition VOICES Alive! the newsletter of the Central Service Departments of the Catholic Diocese of Lansing will no longer publish a hardcopy edition. The newsletter will only be available online, at the diocesan website <http://www.dioceseoflansing.org>. An e-mail notification will be sent each month when the newsletter is posted to the site.



"E-ONLY" IN
JANUARY, 2010

CALENDAR ITEM - RITE(S) OF ELECTION AND CALL TO CONTINUING CONVERSION

... will be held at three sites this year on the first weekend of Lent.
Saturday, February 20 9:30 AM
St. Mary Cathedral, Lansing

Saturday, February 20 2:00 PM
Christ the King, Ann Arbor

Sunday, February 21 3:00 PM St.
John the Baptist, Howell (Hartland)

Please mark your calendars with these dates.

Materials will be sent to parish Directors of RCIA after the first of the year.



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FIRSTCLASS
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 PERMIT #782
 LANSING, MI

DIOCESAN CALENDAR November, 2009 - January, 2010

November 1	All Saints (Solemnity)	December 8	Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Holy Day of Obligation
November 1	High School Jamboree, Lansing Center	December 8	9:30am CYM Advisory, Diocesan Center
November 2	Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed (All Souls)	December 9	Anniversary of the Dedication of St. Mary Cathedral, Diocese of Lansing
November 4	10:30am Diocesan CAFE Advisory Committee Teleconference	December 12	10:00am Youth Events Committees and DYAC, St. Mary Magdalen, Brighton
November 4	11:45am Diocesan Christian Initiation Advisory Committee Teleconference	December 14	10:00am LEM Advisory Committee
November 11	10:30am Diocesan Worship Commission, Diocesan Center	December 24-	
November 12	1:00pm Implementation Commission	January 1	Diocesan Central Service Offices closed
November 14	10:00am Scout Committee, St. Patrick, Brighton	January 7-8	Michigan Winter Gathering of Parish and Diocesan Catechetical Leaders
November 17	10:00am DRE Orientation Part II, Diocesan Center	January 10-17	Vocations Week
November 19	9:30am DRE Advisory Committee, Diocesan Center	January 14	1:00pm Diocesan Pastoral Council
November 19	6:15pm Diocesan Board of Education and Catechesis, Diocesan Center	January 16	10:00am Youth Events Committees, Immaculate Heart of Mary, Lansing
November 22	Black Catholic Sunday	January 19	10:30am Diocesan Evangelization Advisory Committee Teleconference
November 24	9:00am Diocesan Evangelization Advisory Committee, Diocesan Center	January 20	10:30am Diocesan CAFE Advisory Committee Teleconference
November 26	Thanksgiving - Diocesan Central Service Offices Closed	January 20	11:45am Diocesan Christian Initiation Advisory Committee Teleconference
November 27	Diocesan Central Service Offices Closed	January 21	6:16pm Diocesan Board of Education and Catechesis
November 29	First Sunday of Advent	January 25	Anniversary of Ordination and Installation of Bishop Mengeling (1996)
December 7	6:30pm Young Adult Council, Diocesan Center		

***VOICES Alive!* will become an online publication in January, 2010**

To sign up for e-mail delivery of *VOICES Alive*, send a request to mdiebold@Faithcatholic.com