

Looking for “Good Ideas” as you continue planning for another year?

Look no further! A few years ago, while the Diocesan Pastoral Council was reviewing parish pastoral plans, “good ideas” kept coming into discussion. The Council had been studying “Best Practices from America’s Parishes” by Paul Wilkes. And so, the idea of sharing our own good ideas, the wealth of our own parishes, was born. During the past 18 months, volunteers have researched and written about creative programs that can be replicated in any parish in our diocese. All of the information about these 18 programs is located on the diocesan website: www.dioceseoflansing.org “Share the Wealth.” Some ideas include: “Come and See, a tried and proven Welcome Home program”; “Wee Believers”; “Christ Renews His Parish (CHRP)”; “Ballroom Dancing ... Steps to Ecumenism and Much, Much More”; and, “All are Welcome ... Whole Community Catechesis.” Each of these programs is operative in one or more of our parishes. Contact information is listed at the end of each article. Your parish can implement many of these good ideas without too much difficulty.

Upcoming articles include: Busy Person’s Retreat; Catholic Business Leaders’ Connection; The Dead Theologian’s Society; Angels Outreach Ministry; and many more. If your parish is doing something creative which might be inviting to another parish, let us know (rwenzlick@dioceseoflansing.org) and we will follow up with the ideas.

September, 2007
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WHAT’S NEXT IN “PLANNING TOMORROW’S CHURCHES”?

As the calendar turns to the month of September, the review of Parish and School Evaluation Inventories (PEI/SEI) is nearing completion. Regional Review Committees have had the privilege of listening to pastoral leadership and parishioners speak to important issues: Does the parish celebrate the full spectrum of the sacramental life of the church? Has the parish history and location affirmed a need for its abiding presence and ministry? Does the parish exercise good stewardship of its resources, sustaining all aspects of the Church’s mission? These are the discerning questions with which parishes have struggled over the past four or five months. For the most part, parish and regional reports are in the final stages of being completed.



Regional Review Committees have dealt with additional difficult issues: Are clergy deployed to adequately meet the needs of all our people where they exist? What will the region look like with 25-35% fewer priests? How many places of worship does a region have, what is the seating capacity of the churches in the regions and how many weekend worship opportunities are available region wide? How many Religious Education sites are needed? Do some need to be combined? If so, which ones?

These questions were asked against the backdrop of current demographic statistics for each parish with designated parish boundaries and overall county projections. Projected retirement figures for our clergy and numbers of seminarians have been carefully studied.

Using the best information we have available to us and with the guidance of the Holy Spirit ever present, regional observations are also being drafted. The basic question remains, “how will we continue to serve the sacramental, pastoral and leadership needs of our people with fewer priests and dedicated lay ministers and deacons?”

To help our parishioners understand the importance of this work, parish assemblies are being planned for each parish and pastoral center in the Diocese of Lansing. These parish assemblies are open to any parishioner who wishes to know the outcome of the parish and school review and what preliminary observations have been made about the parish or pastoral center. Regional observations will be shared with participants and the assembly agenda will allow participants to comment on the information presented. Watch your parish for posters indicating the date/time/place of your parish assembly or go to www.dioceseoflansing.org. “Planning Tomorrow’s Churches.” You will find the agenda for the parish assemblies with a listing of dates for specific parishes.

INTRODUCTION TO NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING CLASSES

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

- Sunday, September 23, 2007, 5:00 - 6:00pm, St. John the Evangelist, Davison, MI
 - Thursday, September 27, 2007, 7:00 - 9:00pm, St. Mary Magdalen, Brighton, MI
 - Thursday, October 4, 2007, 7:00 - 9:00pm, Queen of the Miraculous Medal, Jackson, MI
 - Thursday, October 11, 2007, 7:00 - 9:00pm, St. Joseph, Dexter, MI
- 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 OF LANSING

In the Diocese of Lansing, the following methods of Natural Family Planning are taught:

- Billings Ovulation Method
- Sympto-Thermal Method as taught by Couple to Couple League (CCL)

*****Thursday**, September 13, 2007, 7:00 - 9:00pm, St. Thomas Aquinas, East Lansing, MI

*****Saturday**, September 22, 2007, 10:00am - 12:00pm, St. Joseph Parish, St. Johns, MI

*****Saturday**, October 13, 2007, 9:00 - 11:00am, St. John the Evangelist, Davison, MI

- Creighton Model (available at the Caritas Center for Women's Health in Ann Arbor)

For more information about Natural Family Planning or to schedule a class, call: 517-342-2587.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES



DEAF PILGRIMS WILL GO TO ROME

The International Catholic Foundation for the Service of Deaf Persons (ICF) and The International Catholic Deaf Association (ICDA) announce the first ever International Deaf Catholic Pilgrimage to Rome in June 2008. Deaf Catholics, as well as family members and supporters will gather for the Papal Audience on Wednesday, June 25, 2008. The purpose of this gathering is for Deaf Catholics to celebrate their faith, joined with the Holy Father in communion with other Deaf Catholics from around the world. *Wednesday, June 25, 2008:* A) General Audience with Holy Father; B) A professional Conference of International Pastoral Leaders in Deaf Ministry along with members of the International Deaf Catholic Community. *Thursday, June 26, 2008:* Mass with The Most Reverend Patrick A. Kelly, Archbishop of Liverpool, England, President of the ICF, followed by a social gathering of all participants. All Liturgies, events and activities will be interpreted in multiple Sign Languages for the Deaf. ICF will organize the liturgies, events and activities on June 25 and 26. ICDA will be coordinating tours and travel plans for the Pilgrimage. Further information on the tours that are being planned from Detroit and neighboring states is available from Rose Smith at: 517-342-2532, rsmith@dioceseoflansing.org, 989-587-6950 or smithrj@cablespeed.com.

FLINT CATHOLIC DEAF GROUP TO HOST CONFERENCE

Flint Chapter # 83 of the International Catholic Deaf Association will host the fourteen-state Midwest Regional Conference on April 25 - 27, 2008 at the Kellogg Center at MSU in East Lansing. The biennial conference theme is *"Together with Jesus"* and the workshop will focus on the Eucharistic Liturgy. There will be opportunities for building new or renewing old relationships. The Deaf Catholic community is very pleased to have Fr. Michael Depcik as their banquet speaker. Registration information is available from Ms. Pat Finks at: finks@intouchmi.com or from the Catholic Deaf/HH Ministry office at: 517-342-2532 or rsmith@dioceseoflansing.org.

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 with the spiritual, physical and emotional needs of all. The Office of Restorative Justice seeks to treat all persons involved with or touched by crime as worthy of time, compassion and spiritual healing and 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. Call: [Tim Metts](mailto:Tim.Metts@dioceseoflansing.org) at 517-342-2495 for further information.

CCMI MEETINGS

Christians Concerned about Mental Illness monthly meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday of each month from 12:00 - 1:00pm in the Diocesan Center at 228 North Walnut Street, Lansing. CCMI meetings will begin September 25th. No reservations required. Meetings are a chance for prayer and fellowship. Contact: Joann: at 517-342-2497 or jdavis@dioceseoflansing.org.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

2007 SENIOR PARISHIONERS APPRECIATION WEEK

The schedule for Senior Parishioners Appreciation Events is as follows: **Monday, September 17**, St. Mary, Morrice; **Tuesday, September 18**, Our Lady of Fatima, Michigan Center; St. John the Evangelist, Davison; Resurrection Church, Lansing; **Wednesday, September 19**, St. Joseph, Ypsilanti; **Thursday, September 20**, St. Joseph, Howell and St. Elizabeth, Tecumseh. All Masses begin at 11:00am and are followed by lunch and entertainment.

ANNUAL FAMILY DAY WITH BISHOP MENGELING
Mass and Lunch for Persons with disAbilities and the Catholic Deaf and Hard of Hearing throughout the Diocese will be held on Sunday, October 21, at St. Mary Cathedral, Lansing. Mass is celebrated at 12:00pm, followed by a luncheon in St. Mary Parish Center. RSVP by contacting: Joann at 517-342-2497 or jdavis@dioceseoflansing.org by October 15th.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO START A CHRISTIANS CONCERNED ABOUT MENTAL ILLNESS (CCMI) GROUP IN YOUR PARISH?

CCMI meetings are a time for prayer and fellowship in a safe environment. Resources are available through Ministry with Persons with disAbilities to welcome persons with mental illness and their families to form a CCMI group. Our ministry will offer a packet containing a DVD entitled "Creating Caring Congregations" and books: (1) [In the Shadow of God's Wings, Grace in the Midst of Depression](#) along with its [Study Guide](#) and (2) [Surviving Depression, A Catholic Approach](#). We are also offering a booklet from NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Resource Guide for Families Dealing with Mental Illness. If you are interested, please contact: Joann at 517-342-2497 or jdavis@dioceseoflansing.org.

KEY VOTES ON ABORTION

The 109th Congress 2006 is now available for free at the Life Justice Office. Put out by the National Committee for a Human Life Amendment, it covers issues from judicial confirmations, military abortion policy, the RU-486 Suspension and Review Act and more. Contact: 517-342-2469 or rhoipkemier@dioceseoflansing.org to get as many copies as needed.

COURAGE/ENCOURAGEMENT

Courage is the Catholic Church's only pontifically approved ministry which is specifically committed to providing spiritual support for persons with same-sex attractions who are striving to live chastely. *Encourage* is the support group for parents and friends. The Diocese of Lansing has a number of groups actively assisting those with same-sex attractions, for both men and women. Posters are available for each parish to advertise *Courage*. *Homosexuality and Hope*, a pamphlet from the Catholic Medical Association, gives short, concise and substantial answers to questions about SSA and the Catholic Church. For posters, pamphlets or questions, please contact: Rory Hoipkemier at 517-342-2469 or rhoipkemier@dioceseoflansing.org.

CLINIC

The Catholic Legal Immigration Network Inc. (CLINIC) actively works with both documented and undocumented immigrants and their legal issues. Their website, www.cliniclegal.org has valuable information for those working with immigrants who need legal assistance or who have questions about their rights or legal standing. For specific legal questions, call: Leslie Glennon at St. Vincent Catholic Charities at 517-323-4734 ext. 1801.

CRISTO REY COMMUNITY CENTER

Cristo Rey Youth Program just completed a very successful "Kids Kamp", with over 70 youth in attendance. Kids Kamp is an eight-week camp conducted in partnership with the Lansing Parks and Recreation Department and the Lansing School District. The program consists of physical sport activities and field trips, with breakfast and lunch being provided. Each summer, Cristo Rey provides a free four-week daily summer structured program for children ages 4 - 12. We have separate classrooms for children ages 4 to 7 and from 8 to 12. The Summer Break Program uses the Second Step curriculum and develops children's skills in the areas of empathy, impulse control and anger management. Children build a positive self-image, learn effective communication, create ways to cope with stress and anger and develop strategies and skills that will stimulate responsible behavior. Cristo Rey's After School Program will begin on Tuesday, September 4, 2007. We have about 20 - 30 youth, ages 5 - 13, who come to the Center everyday from 4:00pm - 7:00pm. The youth have access to computers, work on their homework and volunteer tutors from MSU assist our youth with their reading and math. For more information about these programs, call: 517-372-4700.

April 28 - May 2

Priest Annual Retreat -Bethany House, DeWitt - with Fr. Timothy Gallagher

May 4

Permanent Diaconate Discernment Day

Diocesan Center - Madonna Hall
2:00 - 5:00pm

May 17

Permanent Deacon Aspirants Day of Reflection

St. Francis Retreat Center, DeWitt
9:00am - 4:00pm

June

Senior Priest Appreciation Luncheon

July

Priest Summer Day

August

2nd Annual Priest Golf Outing

August 20

Permanent Diaconate Rite of Candidacy

St. Mary Cathedral - Vesper Service, 7:00pm, Reception - Madonna Hall

August 28

Permanent Diaconate Institution to Acolyte

St. Mary Cathedral - Mass - 7:00pm
Reception to follow - Madonna Hall

October 6 - 9

30th Annual Presbyteral Convocation

Shanty Creek - Bellaire, MI

Preaching and New Sacramentary

2009

May 1 - 3

Permanent Diaconate Pre-Ordination Retreat

Bethany House, DeWitt
Rev. Timothy Gallagher, OMV

May 16

Permanent Diaconate Ord.

St. Thomas Aquinas, East Lansing
- 10:00am - Reception to follow in school gym/cafeteria

FORMATION

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 4 or 5

Ongoing Formation Event. Immaculee Ilibagiza, author of, *Left to Tell: Discovering God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust* will share her story on Forgiveness. The same presentation will be offered two times at two different sites. There is no pre-registration or fee required; a free will offering will be collected. Choose the date/time best for you and bring a friend! *Thursday night, October 4 - St. Francis of Assisi, Ann Arbor* *Friday daytime, October 5 - St. Thomas Aquinas, East Lansing.* Contact: Sr. Mary Ann at 517-342-2506 or mfoggin@dioceseoflansing.org.

October 8 - 11

29th Annual Presbyteral Convocation

McGuire's - Cadillac

Mr. John Reid, of Seattle, WA – presenting on Monday and Tuesday “*Spirituality of Transitions*”

Mr. Mark Mogilka, Director of Pastoral Services – Diocese of Green Bay – presenting on Wednesday and Thursday “*How to Lead a Parish Through Transition.*” Registration brochure, schedule and all other Convocation information will be announced to all priests through the regular Friday e-news and will be available at the login section of the Diocesan website. Please contact: Arlene at 517-342-2510 or awoelfel@dioceseoflansing.org.

October 10

Priest Book Club - Discussion afternoon during Convocation

Title: *Chasing Fireflies*, by Charles Martin

New: \$22.95; SFRC \$20.00; Amazon.com \$15.63

Contact: Fr. Karl Pung at 810-229-9863 if you have any questions.

October 20 - 21

Catechetical Days with Avery Cardinal Dulles

Saturday 8:45am - 5:00pm at Lansing Catholic High School, Lansing

Sunday 8:45am - 5:00pm at Fr. Gabriel Richard High School, Ann Arbor

November

Newly Ordained 1 - 10 years - SFRC, DeWitt - 2:00 - 7:00pm

2008

January 7 - 10

Region VI Forum for Pastoral Leadership, Webers' Inn, Ann Arbor - brochures will be available in November.

February 6

Ash Wednesday

February

Priest Lenten Day of Reflection with Bishop - SFRC, DeWitt

March 23

Easter

PASTORAL PLANNING

MARTHA MEALS MINISTRY

The Pastoral Planning Office has seen a wealth of good ideas come to life as the work of pastoral planning goes on in our parishes. Since March 2006, we have been featuring one of these ideas each month via the "[Sharing the Wealth...](#)" link on the diocesan webpage. We have fleshed-out each idea in an article that tells you everything you need to know, including contacts who will help you get started. As we add one each month, it is becoming an impressive array of success stories. There are 19 articles there now. Probably, there is one or more there that your parish can adopt and adapt.

Probably for as long as there have been churches, women's groups have been generously providing funeral lunches/dinners for families grieving a lost loved one. St. Catherine Labouré in Concord has expanded on this service to offer home cooked meals to parishioners facing other difficulties in their lives. Read more about this exciting project at the "[Sharing the Wealth...](#)" link on our website.



CURSILLO

CURSILLO'S 50TH YEAR CELEBRATION

In recognition of Cursillo's Fiftieth year, the Cursillo community in the Lansing Diocese is holding a 50th year celebration. It will take place on October 14, 2007 at St. John's Parish in Jackson, Michigan, beginning at 2:00pm with a Mass and followed with a Grand Ultreya.

For more information, please contact: Maria Jaimez in Adrian at 517-265-2720, Gene Meyers in Flint at 810-264-3693, Nancy Tuckey in Jackson at 517-784-5257 or Msgr. Fedewa in Lansing at 989-587-4379. You may visit our website at www.lansingcursillo.org.



EDUCATION AND CATECHESIS

TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

Common Strategy 3: Assist every parish to develop a plan to improve communication.

We need to update our mailing, phone, and email lists by deleting staff persons who have left and by including information on new people who have joined parish staffs. Also, if you have a new email address, please give us that change. Send information to: pries@dioceseoflansing.org.

MINISTRY NEWS IN YOUTH &

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Goal 7.1, Strategy A: Develop ways to evangelize youth, college students and young adults, that will sustain them in the Church.

Jamboree: "Jamboree 21: A Space Odyssey - "The Future is Now"™". Registration and promo material has been sent out. If you did not receive it, please call: [Kimmel](tel:517-342-2484) at 517-342-2484.

This high school event has gathered youth from the entire diocese for years with crowds at recent Jamborees topping 1100. Anna Scally will keynote. She has been a leading speaker evangelist in Catholic youth ministry for many years. She will also lead the NCYC group in a big kick off helping those going to be spiritually prepared and ready to celebrate their faith with 25,000 youth from across the country.

We have 14 workshops in all, a collection at Mass to continue to assist with Katrina relief, food, metro inflatables, great liturgy, great music and a crowd of teens being inspired to keep Jesus in their lives.

Let us make this a truly diocesan event with every parish recruiting adults to come with their high school teens to Jamboree 2007 at the Lansing Center, **November 4**.

Goal 7.1, Strategy C: Establish Catholic youth and young adult councils to plan regular inter-parish activities

Refresh retreat, for young adult singles, in their 20's and 30's, is November 9 - 11. It is presented by other young adults and ministry leaders in the diocese. Please check out this link for registration material and contact information. <http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/youngadult/index.html>



CAFÉ

Goal 3.1: Create comprehensive continuing adult education and formation opportunities.

Consider planning at least one program this year in collaboration with a neighboring parish or the parishes of your region. Discuss this possibility with a neighboring director of adult faith formation or at your next regional meeting of parish adult education leaders.

PASTORS/PASTORAL COORDINATORS

Common Strategy 2: Develop an assessment tool based on the seven goals to address parish life.

If your parish has never done the Parish Catechetical Review, confer with your DRE and other Catechetical Leaders about beginning it this year. If you did the Review five or more years ago, it is time to do it again.

The Review is an opportunity to give concrete, practical direction to the faith formation aspects of your parish's goals which were derived from doing the Parish Assessment Tool, its annual updates and now the Parish Evaluation Instrument. It also relates to the concept of having a parish catechetical plan (National Directory for Catechesis, p. 255). This will result in a more detailed picture of where your parish wants to go in developing its faith formation programs for adults, teens and children over the next 5 - 7 years.

Call: [Pete Ries](mailto:Pete.Ries@dioceseoflansing.org) at 517-342-2486 or [Michael Andrews](mailto:Michael.Andrews@dioceseoflansing.org) at 517-342-2479 to discuss various approaches to recruiting your working committee. Pete or Michael will come to your parish to do an orientation about the workbook and the various stages of the process when your working committee is ready. Workbooks are available at \$3.25 a copy.

EDUCATION AND CATECHESIS

DIOCESAN CATECHETICAL DAY '07

Goal 3: Provide vibrant, lifelong faith formation opportunities which enable us to live the gospel.



There are just a couple weeks left for parish and school religious education catechists, DREs, CYMs, Directors of Adult Faith Formation, RCIA Directors, Directors of Evangelization, pastoral ministers, priests, deacons and other interested parishioners to register for Diocesan Catechetical Day '07. The event is Saturday, October 20, 8:45am - 4:00pm at Lansing Catholic High School, Lansing. The entire program is repeated Sunday, October 21, 8:45am - 4:00pm at Fr. Gabriel Richard High School, Ann Arbor. The Sunday program will include 4

workshops in Spanish and simultaneous Spanish translation of the opening prayer service and keynote presentation.

The theme for Diocesan Catechetical Day '07 is: Catechesis: *Encountering the Living Christ*. Our opening keynote presenter is Avery Cardinal Dulles, famed theologian and author of *Models of the Church*. Among the 50 workshops are 14 catechist formation topics and various topics for youth ministry, young adult ministry, adult faith formation, RCIA, worship and liturgy and catechists of all age groups. Participants can choose modules on spirituality and personality, sports and evangelization, adult facilitation skills and managing multiple ministries.



Packets of registration brochures have already been sent to parish program leaders. You can also go to the cover page of www.dioceseoflansing.org to download as many copies as you want. Registration fee is \$39/person (includes continental breakfast and lunch) if received before September 27 (10% discount for 10 or more from the same parish received by September 27), \$49 for registrations received after September 27.

DRES, CYMS, AND PASTORAL MINISTERS

Please mark September 19 on your calendar. It is legal issues day and our Fall business meeting for all ministries. In the morning we will meet with Michael Murray, our diocesan attorney, to look at key issues in the administration of our various ministries. In the afternoon, we will meet in our various ministry groups for networking, planning and key issues in our ministry. This replaces our usual October sessions. With Diocesan Catechetical Day '07 in October, there are only so many times we can ask you to take time from your parish to meet with us. The morning Legal Issues Inservice is 9:00am - 12:00pm (includes lunch) at the Michigan Catholic Conference Building, 510 South Capitol, Lansing. The afternoon DER/C.M./Pastoral Ministers Business meeting is 1:00 - 3:00pm at the Diocesan Center.

EDUCATION AND CATECHESIS

NATIONAL PASTORAL PLAN FOR ADULT FAITH FORMATION



Goal 3: Provide vibrant, lifelong faith formation opportunities which enable us to live the Gospel.

Sections of the pastoral on adult faith formation are being cited for consideration by parish leaders and adult faith formation committees. To order a copy for \$5.95 plus shipping, contact: Margaret Grima at 517-342-2555 or mgrima@dioceseoflansing.org.

A) Some theory: “Clearly, no person acting alone can adequately meet the needs and fulfill the potential of parish adult faith formation ministry. . .The parish will have a core team of parishioners committed to and responsible for implementing the parish vision and plan for adult faith formation” (P. 48).

B) Some implications: “The parish touches the lives of adults in countless ways that shape their faith. The team becomes conscious and intentional about these aspects of parish life, evaluates their effectiveness and offers to the staff or to the other ministry teams suggestions and assistance to make them more effective. . .The parish team, working with the pastor and parish staff, formulates a vision of adult faith formation for the parish” (PP. 49-50).

C) Some strategy: “The team receives both initial and ongoing formation to prepare it to accomplish its mission effectively. Providing quality adult catechesis requires specialized knowledge and skills” (P. 50).

EVANGELIZATION CHAIRPERSONS/WELCOME HOME SUNDAY PARISH CONTACTS

Goal 2: Commit to our mission of evangelization by sharing the joy and promise of the Gospel with inactive and alienated Catholics and the unchurched.

- 1) Contact: Pete Ries at 517-342-2486 or pries@dioceseoflansing.org if you have not received your parish Welcome Home Sunday organization packet for 2007 - 2008.
- 2) Confer the September, 2007 issue of Today's Parish for seven articles on evangelization.
- 3) Approach your pastor/pastoral coordinator and parish pastoral council about the possibility of having Pete Ries come out to do a presentation about evangelization, what it is and how it can give a unique focus to the activities your parish and its commissions are already doing.
- 4) A six clock hour training program is available for parish evangelization teams. You can schedule Pete Ries to come to your parish at a time of your choosing. If you wish to do this with neighboring parishes or for your region as a whole, that can be arranged also. Call: 517-342-2486.

PASTORS/PASTORAL COORDINATORS

Goal 4.3, Strategy B: Continue and/or initiate certification, on-going formation, networking opportunities and ministry support groups for various lay and professional ministries.

As we begin the program year, it is a good opportunity to discuss a growth plan and time line for acquiring academic background for ministry for those members of your parish staff in significant positions of leaders, whether full-time, part-time or volunteer. There are multiple avenues for staff to acquire such background. Growth plans and time lines can vary. Your interest and encouragement can make a difference in equipping all of your parish staff members with the background required for ministry in the 21st century. Call: [Nancy Joseph](mailto:Nancy.Joseph@dioceseoflansing.org) at 517-342-2512; [Sally Amman](mailto:Sally.Amman@dioceseoflansing.org) at 517-342-2483; [Michael Andrews](mailto:Michael.Andrews@dioceseoflansing.org) at 517-342-2479; [Pat Rinker](mailto:Pat.Rinker@dioceseoflansing.org) at 517-342-2485; [Rita Thiron](mailto:Rita.Thiron@dioceseoflansing.org) at 517-342-2476; or [Pete Ries](mailto:Pete.Ries@dioceseoflansing.org) at 517-342-2486.

RITE OF ELECTION AND CALL TO CONTINUING CONVERSION

Common Strategies 3: Assist every parish to develop a plan to improve communication.

Just in case you did not receive this information that was placed in the June mailing, please mark your calendars now, noting the dates, times and places for the Rites of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion in Lent 2008.

- Saturday, February 9, 11:00am – St. Francis of Assisi, Ann Arbor
Sunday, February 10, 3:00pm – Holy Family, Grand Blanc
Saturday, February 16, 11:00am – St. Mary, Pinckney
Sunday, February 17, 3:00pm – St. Mary Cathedral, Lansing

Help us decrease printing and posting expenses!

To receive *VOICES Alive* via e-mail each month, send a request to Mdiebold@DioceseofLansing.org

**DIOCESAN CALENDAR
SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2007**

9/12	Diocesan Worship Commission - Diocesan Center 10:30am - 3:00pm	9/25	Diocesan Evangelization Advisory Committee - Diocesan Center 9:30am - 12:30pm
9/13	Memorial of St. John Chrysostom	9/27	Memorial of St. Vincent de Paul
9/14	Feast Day of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross	9/29	Feast Day of St. Michael, St. Gabriel & St. Raphael
9/14-16	Retrouvaille Weekend - Detroit	10/1	Memorial of St. Therese of the Child Jesus
9/15	Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows Mass for all deceased at St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery - St. Casimir Catholic Church 5:00pm	10/2	Memorial of Guardian Angels
9/16	Catechetical Sunday - Theme: Encountering the Living Christ	10/4	Memorial of St. Francis of Assisi Diocesan Coordinating Commission Ongoing Formation - St. Francis of Assisi, Ann Arbor 6:00 - 9:00pm
9/18	CYM Advisory - Diocesan Center 9:30am	10/5	Ongoing Formation -St. Thomas Aquinas, East Lansing 9:00am
9/19	Legal Issues Day - Michigan Catholic Conference Building, 510 South Capitol Avenue, Lansing 9:30am - 12:00pm DRE/CYM/Pastoral Ministers' Business Meeting - Diocesan Center 1:00 - 3:00pm	10/5-7	Beginning Experience - St. Joseph Retreat Ctr., Jackson
9/20	Diocesan High School Theology Chairs & Campus Ministers - Jackson Lumen Christi 9:30am - 1:00pm Memorial of St. Andrew Kim Taegon & St. Paul Chong Hasang Diocesan Board of Education & Catechesis - Diocesan Center 6:15pm Diocesan Pastoral Council Meeting	10/8-9	Michigan CCMA Gathering - TBA Ministry with Families 201 - Bethany House, DeWitt 8:00am - 4:30pm
9/20-21	NACARE Region VI - Weber Center, Adrian	10/8-11	Presbyteral Convocation - McGuire's Resort, Cadillac
9/21	Feast Day of St. Matthew	10/9	Michigan CCMA (Catholic Campus Ministry Association) Gathering - TBA
		10/9-13	FDLC (Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions) - Hartford, CT
		10/11-12	NCCL (National Conference for Catechetical Leadership) Provincial Meeting - Augustine Center, Conway, MI