

June 5, 2009

Fr. Nick Zukowski
St. Mary Queen of Creation Parish
50931 Maria Street
New Baltimore, MI 48047-2150



Dear Fr. Zukowski,

In February you and representatives from the Blue Water Vicariate Pastoral Council met with a member of the Tracking Committee to discuss your progress in the Together In Faith planning process. Each Tracking Committee member then wrote a summary of their meetings, which was sent to the entire committee. We discussed all of the vicariates at our May meeting and identified specific items that we would like each vicariate to address, and some issues that affect all vicariates.

We know that your Campus Minister has met with resistance on campus but continues to seek ways to support young adults in the vicariate. The vicariate is to be commended for hosting a Stewardship Assembly, and we hope parishes will choose to engage in this process. During these difficult economic times, it is encouraging to hear of all of the collaborative work the Christian Service Coordinators are doing. Bishop Flores has indicated his desire to meet with many of the vicariate pastoral councils to brainstorm different ways each can respond to the needs of the growing Hispanic community in the Archdiocese of Detroit. This session should be scheduled by Fall 2009. We understand that the recently merged parishes continue to find ways to strengthen their communities. However every parish in the vicariate will need to identify another parish with which they will cluster or collaborate with, particularly in the event of the retirement, illness or reassignment of a pastor. Please submit a complete list by Fall, 2009. We in particular want to recognize and applaud the financial support by all parishes for all schools in the vicariate, this is an excellent model for other vicariates to follow. We also support collaborative planning between Holy Cross Elementary School and St. Mary Elementary School in St. Clair. Finally, we hope that the priests assigned in the vicariate will be able to work out a fair and effective way to relate to Cardinal Mooney High School.

We thank you for your commitment to the Together In Faith process and continuing to collaborate for more effective ministry in support of the parishes, schools and institutions within the vicariate. Please share this information with the vicariate pastoral council, and be prepared to provide the Tracking Committee with an update by Fall 2009.

Sincerely,

Edward J. Miller
Chair
Archdiocesan Tracking Committee

cc: Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron
Bishop Daniel Flores