

Office of Ministries Newsletter

Diocese of Fresno



Volume I, Issue V
April 2008

Message from the Director– *Patty Jiménez*

On April 1st we submitted a grant to the USCCB Catholic Home Missions office that will hopefully determine Mission Status for the Diocese of Fresno. In early October we will be notified if we will receive such status and funds that will support campesino ministry, Asian ministry and detention ministry. If funded, we will be able to provide resources and support that these ministries are lacking.

Fr. David Norris and I just returned from the *Emerging Models of Ministry Summit* (See below for more information) and the National Association for Lay Ministry Formation Director's Institute. It was a historic opportunity to dialogue with bishops, laity, priests, deacons, and religious who repre-

sented every state in the US. We purchased a DVD of the main speakers that will be available to rent from the Media Center at the end of May.

We are in the process of planning our Fall Congress and selecting various speakers. Already we have over 30 workshops. This year we will be adding workshops in Thai taking us to five languages. At this time we are forming committees and developing a website. If you would like to volunteer or be part of a committee (liturgy, registration, hospitality, set/clean up, web, publicity, secretarial assistance) please contact Martin Barrera or sign up via our website.

Patty

2008 Diocesan Congress
"Our Vision for the Future"

Saturday, October 11

On the campus of San Joaquin Memorial High School
& the Diocesan Pastoral Center

- Vocations •
- Catechetics •
- Youth Ministry •
- School of Ministry •
- Parish Life Coordinators •

Workshops offered in

- English / Spanish / Hmong / Vietnamese/ Thai •
- Mass celebrated by Bishop Steinbock •

20th Annual Gathering presented by the Office of
Ministries each year since

"Called and Gifted" - September 30, 1989

Celebrating 40 years as a Diocese

BE A PART OF HISTORY!

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Emerging Models of Pastoral Leadership

Several of us from the Diocese participated in the Emerging Models of Pastoral Leadership Ministry Summit April 20-23, 2008. Pastoral leaders from across the country, lay and ordained, gathered to share their experience, wisdom, and voice in the creation of recommendations for the future development of pastoral leaders.

Six organizations partnered for the Summit– National Association of Lay Ministry, Conference for Pastoral Planning and Council Development, National Association of Church Personnel Administrators, National Association of Diaconate Directors, National Catholic Young Adult Ministry Association, and National Federation of Priest Councils. We participated in action groups, heard fantastic speakers, and met with peers and colleagues who are engaged in creating vibrant faith communities!

For information about the reports that were presented at the Summit go to <http://www.emergingmodels.org/reports.cfm>



Youth and Young Adults

This month we met with Youth Coordinators. We discussed the changing demographics and how they will affect how we do ministry – In 2006 79% of Catholics in California under the age of 18 were Latino/Hispanic. Much preparation will need to be taken to

Bilingual Coordinator:

Vacant

Bilingual Secretary:

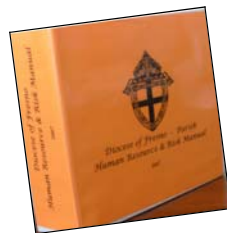
Martin Barrera

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ensure that we can serve their needs.

We are looking at offering certification in Youth Ministry here in the Diocese and we are in conversations with the Center for Ministry Development (English) and Instituto Fe y Vida (Spanish). Please keep an eye out for more information. No guidelines have been set yet regarding certification of Youth Ministers.

We also discussed the Risk Management Binder (see picture)



It is available at each parish and the forms that youth ministers need are located in this binder. Ask your Parish Secretary or Administrator.



We changed our next meeting dates. Our next meeting will be Thursday, June 26, 2008 at St. Mary's in Sanger (English). The next meeting for Spanish Coordinators will be July 6, 2008 at St. Anthony in Atwater.

Catechetics

What an exciting time for us all! I cannot thank you enough for the warm welcome I have received from all of you. I was able to meet many of you at the past Diocesan meeting for DRE's/CRE's held April 12. We had a wonderful turnout of 42 representatives (6 were Spanish speaking). Msgr. Raymond Dreiling presented the catechetical portion of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan "Our Vision for the Future." There was some great input and dialogue following the presentation and I will be sure

to keep you posted on any news regarding the plan.

In order to assist all of you in your ministries, guidelines for sacramental preparation (first sacraments, baptism), curriculum, learning objectives, and home schooling are currently being drafted. Once these guidelines are completed, they will be incorporated into the Diocesan Handbook for Parish Catechetical Leaders (pcl's) which is also being presently compiled by the Diocesan Catechetical Advisory Board. This

handbook, will be a comprehensive tool to provide all of you with guidelines for ministry, certification, sacraments, programs, forms, etc. Putting together these various guidelines and the handbook is a huge undertaking and any assistance you can provide as to input, review, commentary, etc. is greatly appreciated.

Summer is a great time to focus on completing some of the requirements for certification (basic catechist, master catechist, etc.) There will be pro-

grams offered throughout the Diocese – check our website for a listing of these offerings – if you need to add to this list just let me know and it will get posted as well.



Catechetical Coordinator:

Madeline Loiacono

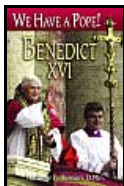
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Media Center



I'm pleased to share some of our new items we've purchased. Some of these books and DVDs would definitely be a great resource as refresher or to gain knowledge.

We Have a Pope! Benedict XVI

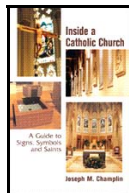


In honor of Pope Benedict's visit to the U.S. we have selected this book written by Matthew Bunson. He brings his deep knowledge and

understanding of Catholic history and faith to this biography of Pope Benedict XVI. Here is your chance to learn more about this remarkable man.

Inside a Catholic Church: A Guide to Signs, Symbols, and Saints

Few Catholics, let alone non-Catholics, understand what a treasure house their parish church is. This book provides the



Ask the Bible Geek-Answers to Questions from Catholic Teens

Gifted youth leader Mark Hart knows teens inside and out, and as the Bible Geek he asks and answers the real questions that puzzle teens today. Dealing realistically and honestly with concerns about God, temptations, personal issues, daily life and more, he speaks encourage-



ment to the minds and hearts of kids. His solutions to typical situations teens wonder about, are rooted in Scripture and the Catholic Tradition.

See Page 4 for DVD's

Bilingual Media Secretary:

Rosie Navarro

Ext. 100

Multicultural/Campesino Ministry

At a recent meeting with Campesino coordinators, Catholic Charities gave a presentation on the different services they provide. They offer food, assistance with rent, clothing, immigration services and social services. We also discussed the Human Rights of

each person as viewed by the Catholic Church. We reflected how scripture addresses immigrants.

The Laos/Kmhmu community celebrated their New Year on April 13, 2008 at the Pastoral Center.



In January the Hmong Catholic Community in Fresno launched a website. To check it out go to www.hmongcatholic.org

Part-time Program Consultant contract position:

Program administrator for the Region XI Commission of the Spanish-Speaking (RECOSS) and liaison to the California Catholic Conference of Bishops: practicing Catholic; bilingual (English/Spanish); computer literate; com-

petent in verbal and written communications; Master's degree in Pastoral Studies, Theology or equivalent. Hours and pay negotiable. Please submit letter of interest and resume to Debbie McDermott, dmcdermott@cacatholic.org. More information, please call: 916-313-4000.

Director:

Vacant

Bilingual Secretary:

Martin Barrera

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Detention Ministry

The annual Detention Ministry Mass is an opportunity for all who are involved with or work in the justice and corrections systems to join together in praise and thanksgiving. It will be held this year on Wednesday, May 7 at 7:00 pm at St. Mary's in Visalia. Fr. Rod Craig will be the celebrant, and there will be a reception immediately afterwards in the parish hall. All are invited.



Just how many jails or prisons are there in this diocese, and how well are we serving

them? We will be carrying out a census of facilities and ministries over the next few months to try to answer that question. The results will be used to target efforts to re-

cruit and deploy volunteers and other ministry resources.

There are currently vacancies for Catholic Chaplains at two facilities here in the Diocese of Fresno. Both are full time salaried positions with the State of California with full benefits. If you are interested, please contact me at (559) 488-7474 ext.108.



Director:

Claude Muncey

Ext, 108

School of Ministry

On April 5 and 6 the participants of the "Vino Nuevo" program gathered at St. Anthony Retreat Center for some quality time with God, themselves and one another. This retreat, facilitated by Rosa Maria Guebe, provided the participants with a wonderful opportunity to deepen their relationship with God. The time spent in silence and prayer along with the contemplation of God's nature, particularly beautiful at this time of the year, made of this weekend a memorable event.

We are grateful to staff at the retreat house, especially to Fr. John, for their gracious hospitality.

Fr. David attended the National Association for Lay Ministry Formation Director's Institute which preceded the Emerging Models of Ministry Summit. The title of the Institute was "Creating a Climate for Lay Ministry." two workshops were offered: one on Marketing and one on Technology and Young Adults.

The MA Program is currently

recruiting students for the Fall Semester. A new site in Bakersfield will be open and classes will take place Tuesday night. Come to one of our Information Sessions!

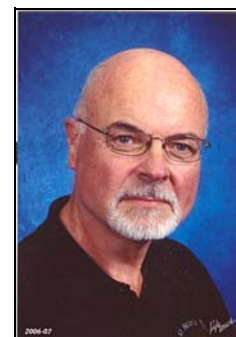
Monday, May 5, 2008 6:00pm

St. Agnes Medical Center

Tuesday, May 13, 2008 6:00pm

St. Francis Church, Bakersfield

For more information see attached flyer.



Dean

Fr. David Norris

Ext. 104

Office of Ministries Newsletter

Family Life Ministry



Coordinator:
Andy Ruperto
Ext 106

We are in the season of new life! During these first few weeks of my new position as Family Life Coordinator, I have come to

realize that the best concrete examples of death and resurrection come from our everyday family life. We live in the midst of little deaths—loss of loved ones, strained relationships (in families, marriages, and friendships), financial problems, having to move houses, wrong decisions, let-downs. But in all this we conquer through hope in the Resurrection. We place our trust in God and are confident that He will send the tools we need each day and people to guide our way. Having celebrated Shepherd Sunday this April, a song comes to mind... “Shepherd me O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life.” So

this is our hope in Jesus Christ—that the best is yet to come. Please feel free to call about resources and to share ideas and concerns.

UPCOMING EVENTS

One Million Rosaries for Unborn Babies: sponsored by The Saint Michael the Archangel Organization

When: Saturday, May 3rd, 2008—6am-7am

Where: Wherever you can pray a rosary (united spiritually with 1 million people in the U.S.)

For more info: www.SaintMichaelTheArchangelOrganization.org

Catholic Engaged Encounter

When: Fri, May 30th—Sun, June 1

Where: [St. Anthony Retreat Center](#) in Three Rivers, CA.

For more info: <http://www.ceefresno.org/>
CEE information line: (559) 265-3365

FOR SPANISH MARRIAGES:

Reconstruccion de Matrimonio

When: Friday, May 16th—May 18th

Where: TBA

Cost: \$350 / couple

For more info: Luis and Nina Gomez

Home ph: (408) 281-2221

Cell ph: (408) 679-9434

e-mail: gomezluis@sbcglobal.net

Social Justice

The Pope in his homily at the Mass he celebrated on April 17 in the Nationals Park Stadium said that Americans have always been a people of hope, that hope is very much a part of the American character, that hope has marked the life of the Catholic community in our country. He obviously is emphasizing the communitarian aspect of hope. Hope is related to faith and faith

cannot be understood as an individual experience, but rather as one relating to the whole community. And so hope cannot be considered a virtue of the individual but one that involves us all. The goal we hope to attain, intimate communion with our God through Jesus in his Spirit, must be the achievement of us all working together for all.

The Pope lamented the injustices of the past endured by the native

American peoples and by those brought here forcibly from Africa as slaves, but that just gives us the opportunity to right those wrongs in the present by our working for the vulnerable and the weak, the poor and the sick, the marginalized and the ostracized. If we are truly a people of faith and hope, we will be one people, embracing all of our brothers and sisters. There is work to be done.

Jim



Director
Fr. James A. Rude, S.J.
(559) 488-7482

Upcoming Events



May 3 – RCIA Training

May 7– Detention Ministry Mass

June 19 – Bishop’s Annual DRE’s/CRE’s Appreciation Mass & Luncheon

June 26– Youth Ministry Coordinators Mtg. (English) St. Mary’s Sanger

July 6- Youth Ministry Coordinators Mtg. (Spanish) St. Anthony Atwater

Media Center Continued

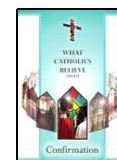
A Child’s First Communion



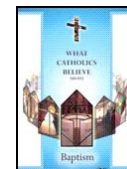
A Child’s First Penance



What Catholics Believe About Confirmation



What Catholics Believe About Baptism



Diocese of Fresno

OFFICE OF MINISTRIES

1550 North Fresno Street • Fresno, CA 93703-3788
Phone: (559) 488-7474 • Fax: (559) 493-2847

- Director of Ministries:** Patricia Jiménez
- Director of Detention Ministry:** Claude Muncey
- Coordinator of Catechetics:** Madeline Loiacono
- Coordinator of New Wine:** Rosa Maria Guembe
- Bilingual Secretary:** Martín Barrera

- Dean of the School of Ministry:** Fr. David Norris
- Director of Social Justice Ministry:** Fr. James A. Rude, S.J.
- Coordinator of Family Life:** Andriel Ruperto
- Administrative Assistant:** Paul Mentlewski
- Bilingual Media Secretary:** Rosie Navarro

Get the
formation
you always
wanted

Pastoral Ministries Formation Program

Diocese of Fresno and Holy Names University



Courses are scheduled to accommodate the lives of full-time individuals (one four-hour class every Tuesday evening, one course at a time). Classes will be offered via live video-conferencing at St. Agnes Medical Center, Fresno and St. Francis, Bakersfield. Additional sites in the Valley will be identified in the future.

M.A. in Pastoral Ministries

It is designed for men and women who are engaged in ministry in the Diocese and who wish to deepen their theological grounding and perfect the practical skills required for their work.



Come to one of our Information Sessions!

Monday, May 5, 2008 6:00pm
St. Agnes Medical Center
1303 E. Herndon Ave., Fresno
Shehadey Pavilion
North Wing

Tuesday, May 13, 2008 6:00pm
St. Francis Church
(Conference Room B)
900 H Street
Bakersfield, CA 93304

For more information contact:

Mary Turowski
Tel: 510-436-1139
turowski@hnu.edu



HOLY NAMES UNIVERSITY

3500 Mountain Blvd., Oakland, CA 94619

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