

THE DRIFT

Blue Water Vicariate

June 2021

From the Vicar

This is my last column in *The Drift*, for my term as vicar ends on June 30.

The vicariate clergy have submitted the names of three of our priests as nominees for election to the Presbyteral Council (the official body of priests, mandated by Canon Law, who by means of regular communication and meetings, offer feedback and advice to the archbishop and his assistants).

The entire presbyterate (that is, the priests of the archdiocese) will vote early this month, electing to the Presbyteral Council one priest from each of the sixteen vicariates. In turn, Archbishop Vigneron will appoint one of these newly-elected priests from each vicariate as vicar for the next two years.

It is obviously not yet known which of the three nominees from our vicariate will be elected (and this may not be clear by the deadline for the next issue of *The Drift*)—but we do know that he will need our support and prayers, especially as we face the transition to the new Families of Parishes configuration.

Congratulations Graduates!

We congratulate those graduating from Cardinal Mooney High School at 2pm on Sunday June 6, and all the other graduating seniors throughout the Blue Water Vicariate.

To the class of 2021: May God guide you and bless you in all your endeavors!

Father's Day

A few weeks from now our country will be celebrating Father's Day—a very timely observation in light of the fact that American society today often ignores or downgrades the crucial importance of fathers in the lives of their children.

According to a sociological study conducted in Switzerland some years ago, when both parents attend church, 32.8% of their children will also attend church regularly as adults. If only the mother attends, a mere 3.4% of the children become regular attendees as adults. However, if it's the father who normally goes to church, but not the mother, a surprising 37.7% of the children become, as adults, regular churchgoers.

Thus, the example of fathers is of paramount importance in determining whether children will practice their faith once they become adults themselves. Fathers also help influence whether their children will have strong moral values as adults.

During World War II, as the conquering Nazis attempted to exterminate all the Jews in Poland, some Catholic Poles—at the risk of their own lives—sheltered Jewish refugees. However, many other Poles were indifferent to their plight, and a few even turned them over to the Germans. Following the war, the newly-established nation of Israel commissioned a sociological study to determine why there was such a wide range of responses to desperate Jews seeking assistance from

Catholic Poles. The study concluded that everything depended on the role of the father.

In those Catholic homes where the father was the religious leader of the family, actively involved in his children's moral and religious upbringing, those children grew up to become adults who had the courage and strength to do the morally right thing by hiding the Jews—but when the father wasn't actively involved, those children didn't have the moral backbone as adults necessary to risk assisting their Jewish brothers and sisters hiding from the Germans.

Mothers teach their children to accept themselves as persons; fathers help their children learn to relate to the larger world. The Church has always recognized the crucial role fathers play, and it's up to each of us to help our society learn this important lesson, too.

Families of Parishes

The priests of the Blue Water Vicariate attended a special retreat last month to help them prepare for the upcoming transition to Families of Parishes, and they—and other parish ministers and staff members—have also been planning, meeting, and preparing for this reconfiguration. There will probably be little noticeable difference for the first year (except perhaps for pulpit exchanges among the clergy of each Family, and a combined Family Parish Council), but more substantial changes can be expected, beginning about a year from now.

This major restructuring is designed to address the ever-growing shortage of clergy in our Archdiocese, while also promoting greater levels of cooperation among our parishes and schools, and looking for ways to share our physical and personnel resources more efficiently.

As always, your prayers and support in this process are much needed and appreciated.



A Final Note

The 16th century educator St. Angela Merici noted that "Disorder in the society is the result of disorder in the family."

Let us therefore strive to serve our country by living strong, faith-based family lives, while making room for God in everything we do.

May the Lord bless you and your loved ones, and you all of you a safe and enjoyable summer.

Fr. Joe Esper

THE WILD GOOSE

DISCOVERING A DEEPER RELATIONSHIP WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

Holy Family Parish in Memphis, Michigan is hosting an incredible 14-part video series narrated by Fr. Dave Pivonka, TOR, President of Franciscan University. The conference consists of Fr. Dave speaking on a different attribute of the Holy Spirit each night, with testimonies of people from across the country whose lives have been impacted by the Spirit of God; followed by a practical application on how to respond to the Holy Spirit.

The conference is held on Wednesday evenings from 7:00pm to 8:30pm beginning on May 26th and running through August 25th at Holy Family Parish in Memphis, Michigan. There is no cost and no commitment - come to one or all of the sessions.

For information, contact John Kowalski at deliverme@yahoo.com

Study Guides & other resources are available at: www.TheWildGooselsLoose.com

St. Augustine & Holy Family Corpus Christi Celebration

Sunday, June 6, 2021

Join us as St. Augustine and Holy Family celebrate Corpus Christi with a **Walk With Jesus** starting at St. Augustine, Richmond ending at Holy Family, Memphis. The procession will begin with a Mass at St. Augustine at 6:30am.

This prayerful procession route will be on M-19. You can join in the walk at any time. Need a break, hop on the hay wagon, which will be available the entire walk.

- Free Will Donation BBQ Lunch at 11:30am
- Holy Family Grand Raffle Drawing at 1:30pm

For more information, visit our websites or contact the parish office. (staugustinecatholicparish.org or holyfamily-online.org) St. Augustine 586-727-5215 Holy Family 810-392-2056.

GIVE where you live!
This ONE DAY event goes live ON June 9, 2021
BlueWaterBabies.org/big-give

How to Help

- Mark your calendar
- Go to #BigGive21
- Spread the word on social media - Share our posts
- GIVE on June 9th at Spero's OPEN HOUSE or visit BlueWaterBabies.org that day to donate online.

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Attention Holy Cross & Cardinal Mooney Graduates

Due to the high rate of COVID infections again this year, the Holy Cross-Cardinal Mooney Alumni Association will not be holding their annual breakfast on the first Sunday of June. We are still planning on mailing a newsletter to our membership in the near future.

Unfortunately, with the funding lost in the past two years from COVID, our funds are nearly depleted. We are asking all graduates of Holy Cross or Cardinal Mooney to send a check equal to the number of years since graduation to the Holy Cross-Cardinal Mooney Alumni Association C/O Dan Kilian, 660 S. Water St., Marine City MI 48039. If you are able, feel free to send more. Please make checks to HC-CMC Alumni Association.

We are seeking email addresses of HC and/or CMC graduates. By emailing your newsletter, we will save the cost of printing and mailing the annual newsletter which is in excess of \$1,200 per mailing. Please email your address to Mary Patrick at mapatrick1@sbcglobal.net.

God bless you for your support.

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Blue Water Vicariate Directory

Including Weekend Mass and Confession Times (Please call for daily Mass schedule or to confirm)

Holy Family Parish (Memphis)

Phone: 810-392-2056

Masses: Saturday 4:30 pm, Sunday 10:30 am & 5:30 pm

Confession: Saturday 3:30 pm

St. Augustine Parish (Richmond) *

Phone: 586-727-5215

Masses: Saturday 6 pm, Sunday 7:30 am & 9 am

Confession: Wednesday 8:45 am Saturday 5 pm

Holy Trinity Parish

St. Joseph Church (Port Huron)

Phone: 810-984-2689

Mass: Sunday 11 am

St. Stephen Church (Port Huron)

Phone: 810-984-2689

Masses: Saturday 4 pm, Sunday 9 am

Confession: Wednesday 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Saturday 9 am to 10 am

Immaculate Conception Parish (Ira Township) *

Phone: 586-725-3051

Masses: Saturday 4:30 pm, Sunday 8 am, 10 am & 12 pm

Confession: Saturday 3:30 pm

Thursday after 8:30 am Mass

Our Lady on the River Parish

Holy Cross Church (Marine City) *

Phone: 810-765-3568

Masses: Saturday 6 pm, Sunday 8 am & 9:30 am

Confession: Friday after 9 am Mass

St. Catherine of Alexandria Church (Algonac)

Masses: Saturday 4 pm, Sunday 11:30 am

Confession: Saturday 3 pm

St. Mark Chapel (Harsens Island)

Mass: Sunday 10am

St. Christopher Parish (Marysville)

Phone: 810-364-4100

Masses: Sunday 8 am, 11 am & 5:30 pm

Confession: Sunday 4 pm - 5 pm

Submitting Info to The Drift

To submit information or events within the Blue Water Vicariate to be included in this monthly publication, be sure to include all pertinent information (i.e. organization, event name, location, contact, time and cost) and email to editor@iccatholic.org.

Please note: We are unable to accept any handwritten or phone submissions. Only email, word, pdf, jpg, txt files can be accepted (nothing in publisher, please).

St. Edward on the Lake (Lakeport) *

Phone: 810-385-4340

Masses: Saturday 5 pm, Sunday 10 am & 12 pm

Tridentine Mass: Sunday 8 am

Confession: Sunday 7:30 am & 9:30 am, Tuesday &

Wednesday 7:30 am, Thursday 6 pm, Saturday 7:30am,

8:30 am & 4 pm, First Friday 6:30 pm

St. Mary Parish (Port Huron) *

Phone: 810-982-7906

Masses: Saturday 5 pm, Sunday 9 am, & 11 am

Confession: Saturday 4 pm, Thursday 8:45 am-9:30 am,

1st Friday 8-9 pm or by appt.

St. Mary Parish (St. Clair)

Phone: 810-329-2255

Masses: Saturday 4:30 pm, Sunday 8:30 am & 11:30 am

Confession: Saturday 10 -10:30 am

St. Mary Queen of Creation (New Baltimore)

Phone: 586-725-2441

Masses: Saturday 4:30 pm, Sunday 9 am & 11 am

Tridentine Mass: Sunday 1:00 pm

Confession: Wednesday during 6 pm Holy Hour

Saturday 11:30 am and 3 pm

* Indicates Catholic School on campus

Cardinal Mooney Catholic High School (Marine City)

Phone: 810-765-8825



The Drift
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Blue Water Vicariate

The Rev. Joseph Esper
Vicar and Pastor, Immaculate Conception Parish

Next Article Deadline: June 21, 2021

Next Issue: July 4, 2021

Submit info to The Drift via e-mail at
editor@iccatholic.org
(only email submissions please)



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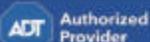
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