

Charlotte/Greece/Hilton Pastoral Planning Task Force Meeting Notes

Wednesday, March 15, 2023 - St. Leo the Great

ATTENDING: Holy Cross/Our Mother of Sorrows: Fr. William Coffas, Fr. Joseph Martuscello, Our Mother of Sorrows: Marc Boeh, David Witkoski, Holy Cross: Joseph DiVincenzo, St. Charles Borromeo: Fr. John Firpo, Gina Reeder , David Steklenski, St. John the Evangelist: Fr. Peter Enyan-Boadu, Nick Verdino, St. Lawrence: Fr. Lee Chase , Steve Amico, Jeri Rombaut, St. Leo the Great: Father Joseph Catanise, David Jones, Barbara Surash, St. Mark: Deacon Frank Pettrone, Peter Blind, Kimm Wesley, Facilitator: Karen Rinefierd, Minutes Scribe: Maryanne Sutton

EXCUSED: Holy Cross: Ryan Snyder, St. John the Evangelist: Paul Parkman

6:30 **Adoration in the small chapel**

6:50 **Miscellaneous**

- It's been slower and harder than expected to identify and invite parishioners to serve on each of the three collaborative initiatives (evangelization, vocations, shared website). As each committee reaches the point where 7 members have been identified (one from each parish), Karen will convene the first meeting and maintain communication between the committee and pastoral leaders/task force.
- Should we have a bulletin article on Easter or skip a week? Positive: would reach parishioners who only come infrequently (assuming that they read the bulletin); negative: bulletins are already quite full on Easter. Decision: to have an article in Easter bulletins. Suggestions: 1) happy Easter from the task force, 2) we are working on preparing for our parishes' future, 3) ongoing information is in bulletins and on the task force webpage (give link).

1) **Discussion: Natural groupings if/when future clustering needs to occur**

- For each task force member from a stand-alone parish: If your parish were to join with another parish, which parish makes sense to you? Why? If your parish were to join with two other parishes in a cluster, which parishes make sense to you?
- For each task force member from the Community of Holy Cross and Our Mother of Sorrows: If another parish were to join with Holy Cross/Our Mother of Sorrows, which parish makes sense to you? Why?

NOTE: THIS IS SPECULATION/BRAINSTORMING

A. ST. CHARLES

CLUSTERING WITH ONE PARISH

- St. Lawrence-similar in size, parish could use help, parish operates similarly, parishioners know one another
- OMOS-proximity, natural connection as parishioners live within boundaries of each other
- St. Lawrence-ministry similar

CLUSTERING WITH TWO PARISHES

- Add St. John's-Father Peter could use the help
- Add St. John's-geographically based
- Add St. Lawrence-ministry based

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B. ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

CLUSTERING WITH ONE PARISH

- St. Lawrence-parishioners live within boundaries of each other
- Any parish

CLUSTERING WITH TWO PARISHES

- OMOS and St. Lawrence-geographically near, friendships within parishes
- St. Lawrence and OMOS/Holy Cross-parish-connections

C. ST. LAWRENCE

CLUSTERING WITH ONE PARISH

- St. John's-geography, collaborations in common, natural succession (St. Lawrence was formed from part of St. John's originally)
- St. John's - geography
- St. John's-geography, Men's Club originated there, Daily Mass crowd is shared

CLUSTERING WITH TWO PARISHES

- St. Mark's-friends in parish, geography, Mass schedules the same
- St. John's and St. Mark's-collaborate on fish fries, closest to one another
- St. Charles-ministry similar, geography

D. ST. LEO'S

CLUSTERING WITH ONE PARISH

- St. Mark's-parishioners go to each other's church, geography
- St. Mark's-school district is the same, collaborate currently
- St. Mark's-joint employees, school district shared

CLUSTERING WITH TWO PARISHES

- St. Lawrence-geography, school district
- St. Lawrence-geography and school district
- (outside our 7 parishes) St. John's Spencerport-parishioners go there when they don't come to St. Leo's, collaborate with them
- St. Lawrence-geography, school district

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E. ST. MARK'S

CLUSTERING WITH ONE PARISH

- St. Leo's-geography, collaboration already happening between churches
- St. Leo's-geography, size, demographics same, ease of collaboration
- St. Leo's-geography

CLUSTERING WITH TWO PARISHES

- St. Lawrence-geography, share parishioners, daily Mass folks, school district
- St. Lawrence-same as above, plus Knights of Columbus, has school
- St. Lawrence-geography, school (might lead to growth)

F. HOLY CROSS/OUR MOTHER OF SORROWS

CLUSTERING WITH ADDITIONAL PARISH

- St. Charles-geography, faith formation staff already shared
- St. Charles- geography, quadrants of coverage where Masses are, housing capabilities of campus, would include a school
- Don't have preference
- St. Charles-daily Mass community, proximity, parishes similar, focus/concern on poverty in community, start-up houses in both communities
- St. Charles-close proximity, bridge with parishioners, share resources

7:45 2) Discussion: beginning to develop scenarios to present to the bishop for the possibility that one of our priests cannot be replaced

Comments:

- Thinking of clustering is the wrong approach, reduced parish spirit and involvement, how can we sustain with staff that we have instead of clustering? Difference between "accountable for" and "responsible for"—what is required for pastors? What can be delegated to others?
- Our values and vision should guide decisions/recommendations

Scenarios needed:

1) Pastoral Leaders

- If Fr. Catanise or Fr. Firpo retired
- If Fr. Chase, Fr. Coffas, Fr. Enyan-Boadu, or Deacon Pettrone were reassigned

2) Parochial Vicars

- If Fr. Siriani retired
- If Fr. Martuscello were reassigned

Future task force meetings:

- Tuesday, April 25 at St. Mark's Church
- Wednesday, May 31st at Our Mother of Sorrows Parish Hall