

Diocese of Winona
Vision 2016 Parish Cluster Pastoral Planning Process
Meeting 2 Report

August 27th, 2015

Parish Cluster of St. Leo in Pipestone, St. Catherine in Luverne, St. Martin in Woodstock, St. Joseph in Jasper, and St. Mary in Ellsworth, MN

Introduction

In the second meeting of the Vision 2016 Parish Cluster Pastoral Planning Process, the key agenda items were designed for beginning planning as a combined leadership team. This will be a new parish cluster that now includes five parishes, three of which already operate as a Tri-parish (St. Leo, St. Martin and St. Joseph) and share a pastor, and St. Catherine in Luverne and St. Mary in Ellsworth, which share a pastor. St. Leo, St. Martin and St. Mary have been recommended for oratory status. Based upon the initial recommendation from the Diocese of Winona, St. Mary in Ellsworth initially was paired with a different cluster and had requested moving to this cluster, which the Bishop approved. In addition, St. Mary leadership has requested of the Bishop and the full cluster leadership team that it remain a parish rather than move to oratory status. A portion of this cluster meeting included discussion on this request. Approximately 40 leadership team members participated in the meeting, with an additional 25 to 30 observers in attendance. The large size of the group challenged the dialogue process, and Msgr. Colletti has suggested that the parishes reduce the number of representatives to the team to allow for more effective dialogue and planning.

Key Outcomes

- A. Developed draft liturgy schedule options
- B. Outlined next steps
- C. Began movement toward creation of one shared leadership team across all five parishes

Key Next Steps

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| 1. Meeting 2 Report development and distribution | Msgr. Kosse and Fr. Jennings, Leandra (DOW), Christine Wroblewski (TWI) |
| 2. Meeting 2 – schedule of dates, times, and locations | Msgr. Kosse and Fr. Jennings, Leandra (DOW), Connie (TWI) |
| 3. Complete Due Diligence/Inventories (for recommended oratories) | Administrator, parish leaders, and volunteers |
| 4. Reduce the size of the joint cluster planning team to no more than 25 | Pastors |
| 5. Determine future use of oratories | Pastors and Parish Leaders |
| 6. Review parish/regional demographic data and begin to gather baseline data for completing Element B of the Parish Cluster Pastoral Plan | Pastors and Parish Leaders |

Outstanding Question:

- Will this new leadership team (combining five parishes and representing ALL parishioners across the five-parish geographic area) support completing and submitting a Vision 2016 plan to the Bishop that includes St. Mary in Ellsworth as a full parish rather than as an oratory.

Exception to Planning Process for this Cluster

- Msgr. Colletti shared with the group that, due to the unusual circumstance of this cluster having two pastors for the near future (1 to 2 years), it has been granted additional time for its Vision 2016 plan to move to implementation. While Fr. Jennings is at retirement age, the Bishop has approved his staying on as pastor of St. Catherine/St. Mary until he chooses to retire, which could occur in 2017 or possibly slightly later. This will be determined annually between Fr. Jennings and Bishop Quinn. Were Fr. Jennings less close to retirement, this cluster would have been expected to move to one pastor and begin implementation of a new plan in summer of 2016 due to the shortage of priests across the Diocese.
- This cluster is still expected to complete its Vision 2016 plan and submit it by February 2016 to the Bishop, but the full plan will not take effect until Fr. Jennings retires.
- In addition, this cluster is expected to adjust its liturgy schedule so priests have no more than three masses each per weekend, which meets the process guidelines of Vision 2016.

Summer Updates

- St. Mary has begun its inventory and has a good start on its history, thanks to information gathered for its 125th anniversary. In addition, volunteers have begun to document its historical artifacts through photos.
- St. Martin has begun its inventory and is building on the historical information gathered for its 125th anniversary in 2008.
- St. Joseph has started its inventory and also has most of its historical information in place.

Considerations/Discussion in the Preparation of Liturgy Schedule Options

The following ideas/suggestions were offered and discussed by members of the leadership team as part of the development of liturgy schedule options:

- Hold the Spanish Mass on Saturday evening rather than Sunday afternoon as currently scheduled.
- When one of our two pastors is on vacation, move to total of 3 masses for the remaining pastor for that weekend.
- Hold a Sunday evening Mass.
- Do we really need a Spanish Mass, especially when we are moving three parishes to oratory status? Discussion then took place around the changing demographics in the areas and the need to address them with Mass offerings. Msgr. Kosse noted that the vast majority of recent Baptisms at St. Leo were to Latino families.
- Consider 7 Masses, rather than 6, for our 2 pastors beginning in summer of 2016. This still reduces the total number of Masses currently offered in this cluster of two pastors from 8 to 7.
- Representatives from St. Mary/Ellsworth requested that the full cluster leadership team consider preparing a plan and Liturgy schedule that includes keeping St. Mary as a parish rather than moving it to oratory status. There was passionate discussion around this request, including the rationale for the request, the impact it could have across the membership of all five parishes regarding drive time, and sustainability. Some cluster leadership team members stated they did not feel comfortable with a decision to change the recommendation, while others were willing to consider it upon review of data about the parishes. The cluster leadership was reminded that the full group must support the change and prepare a Vision 2016 Parish Cluster Pastoral Plan for submission to the Bishop that meets the guidelines and parameters of the process.

Current Weekend Mass Schedule

** Denotes the mass times of their respective weekend schedules with best attendance as noted by the pastors*

St. Leo/Pipestone:

- Saturday at 7 p.m.
- Sunday at 10:00 a.m.*
- Sunday at 2:30 p.m. (Spanish Mass)

St. Martin/Woodssock:

- Saturday at 5 p.m.

St. Joseph/Jasper:

- Sunday at 8 a.m.*

St. Catherine/Luverne:

- Saturday at 5:30 p.m. (Fr. Jennings said attendance has been declining at the Saturday mass.)
- Sunday at 10:30 a.m.*

St. Mary/Ellsworth:

- Sunday at 8:30 a.m.

Draft Liturgy Schedule (Effective Summer 2016) – Two Pastors

St. Leo/Pipestone:

- Sunday at 10:00 a.m.
- Sunday at 2:30 p.m. (Spanish Mass)

St. Martin/Woodssock:

- Saturday at 5 p.m.

St. Joseph/Jasper:

- Sunday at 8 a.m.

St. Catherine/Luverne:

- Saturday at 5:30 p.m.
- Sunday at 10:30 a.m.*

St. Mary/Ellsworth:

- Sunday at 8:30 a.m.*

Draft Liturgy Schedule Options – One Pastor

Note: The group would likely add a Spanish Mass weekly to either set of options with support from a Spanish-speaking and/or retired priest.

Options with Two Parishes and Three Oratories and Three Masses	Options with Three Parishes, Two Oratories and 4 Masses
<p>St. Catherine/Luverne:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday at 8:00 a.m. • Saturday at 5:30 p.m. (November-April) <p>St. Leo/Pipestone:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday at 10:30 a.m. • Saturday at 5:30 p.m. (May-October) 	<p>St. Catherine/Luverne:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday at 8:00 a.m. • Saturday at 5:30 p.m. (November-April) <p>St. Leo/Pipestone:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday at 10:30 a.m. • Saturday at 5:30 p.m. (May-October) <p>St. Mary/Ellsworth:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday at 5:30 p.m.
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