

Charlotte/Greece/Hilton Pastoral Planning Task Force
Tuesday, August 27, 2024 @ Holy Cross Parish Center

ATTENDING: Holy Cross/Our Mother of Sorrows: Fr. William Coffas, Fr. Justin Miller, **Holy Cross:** Amy Mulcahy, **Our Mother of Sorrows:** Marc Boeh, David Witkoski, **St. Charles Borromeo:** Fr. John Firpo, Gina Reeder, David Steklenski, **St. John the Evangelist:** Paul Parkman, Nick Verdino, **St. Lawrence:** Steve Amico, Jeri Rombaut, **St. Leo the Great:** David Jones, Barbara Surash, **St. Mark's:** Peter Blind, **Facilitator:** Karen Rinefierd, **Minutes Scribe:** Maryanne Sutton

EXCUSED: Holy Cross: Joseph DiVincenzo, **St. John the Evangelist:** Fr. Peter Enyan-Boadu, **St. Lawrence:** Fr. Lee Chase, **St. Leo the Great:** Fr. Joseph Catanise, **St. Mark's:** Deacon Frank Pettrone, Kimm Wesley

Prayer (Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27): faith sharing, intercessory prayers, the Lord's Prayer

Welcome to our new representative from Holy Cross, Amy Mulcahy.

We are missing several Task Force members this evening because of vacations and other commitments. It was impossible to find a date this summer that was possible for everyone.

Finalizing the draft of the recommendation to the Bishop to go to Parish Pastoral Councils and Finance Councils: review and revisions to draft created after discussion at the 4/22 Task Force meeting

- Page 1, paragraph 2: This paragraph is confusing. Re-work and add bullet points to make it clearer.
- Page 4: Fr. John Firpo brought a handout with additional information about Pastoral Administrators. It will be inserted, and "glossary of terms" renamed "viable, potential options for the future."
- Page 5: Change wording of #3 to "Costs associated with campus maintenance have not been considered in clustering recommendations at this time."
- Page 8: Change title for priests to "Fr." Add "Pastor," "Parochial Vicar" or "Pastoral Administrator" as appropriate.
- Page 8: Rework these points into the actual recommendation. Speak of particular areas (i.e. facilities, finance, human resources) where staff or parishioners could take greater responsibility.

Preparing for the October 15 meeting to receive feedback on the draft recommendation from Parish Pastoral Councils and Finance Councils

Should we update some of the information we have previously shared (e.g., sacraments, households, priests and deacons serving locally, faith formation and school enrollment)

- Yes. Karen will reach out to the diocese for as much information as they can give us and then contact individual parishes as necessary.

Setting beginning time and length of meeting

- 6:30-8:30 PM.
- Location of the meeting changed to St. Charles Borromeo Church because of the length of the meeting and the presence of padded seats at St. Charles. There is a hearing loop for those who need it.
- We expect at least 85-100 attendees.

Facilitator

- Will be Karen Rinefierd.

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Panel to educate about clustering (who, how long)

- Decision to ask Fr. Bill Coffas (Holy Cross and Our Mother of Sorrows), Fr. Peter Enyan-Boadu (four previous parishes in the 19th Ward), Fr. John Firpo (St. Charles Borromeo and Holy Name of Jesus), Fr. Bob Schrader (three previous parishes that now compose Peace of Christ in Rochester/Irondequoit).
- 45 minutes.
- Agreement to add Dcn. Frank Pettrone to the panel to describe the role of a Pastoral Administrator.

How to gather feedback from council members

- We will use the questions asked of parish staff members in February: 1) What was your initial reaction to this recommendation, i.e. how did you feel about it? 2) What's missing? What hasn't the Task Force considered? 3) What additions or changes would you make to the recommendation?
- The Council members will be given the questions by 10/1 with the packet of information, including the draft recommendation.
- Hard copies for responses to the questions will be available on 10/15. We do not want people to respond before they hear all of the input that evening from the panel and the comments/questions that follow.
- [After the meeting Dave Steklenski suggested having as many as possible send their feedback via email rather than through hard copies. This would make compilation easier and allow each person's exact words. Dave offered to take on this project.]

Other details

- Maryanne Sutton and Fr. Justin will take notes to be compiled afterwards. We may also record the evening.
- Task Force members will sit in the front.
- We need to be prepared with talking points to address anticipated questions from parishioners. They may have concerns about the financial ramifications of this recommendation.
- We need to make sure that the Pastoral Council and Finance Council members know that the local pastoral leaders, not the diocese, initiated this process.
- The opening remarks should state that this current draft of the recommendation to the Bishop was shaped by the input from staffs given in February. Also, that this is not an opportunity for dialoguing among attendees but rather an opportunity for learning (i.e. from the panel) and for the Task Force to receive input from the councils regarding additional needed changes to strengthen the recommendation.

Is there any possibility of changing the 11/12 date for parishioner meetings?

- Karen has a scheduling conflict on 11/12 with a commitment at her own clustered parishes.
- We tentatively changed the date to Wednesday, 11/20. Action: Karen will run this date past the Task Force members who could not attend tonight. **[After the meeting the date for parishioner meetings was changed to Wednesday, November 20. Afternoon and evening meetings will both be at St. Charles Borromeo Church, time TBD.**

Next Task Force meeting and location

- Tuesday, 10/29, 6:30-8:30 PM in room 5 at St. Leo the Great.