

**Charlotte/Greece/Hilton Pastoral Planning Task Force**  
**Wednesday, January 10, 2024 – 6:30-8:30 pm @ St. Mark's**

**ATTENDING: Our Mother of Sorrows:** Marc Boeh, David Witkoski, **St. Charles Borromeo:** Fr. John Firpo, **St. John the Evangelist:** Fr. Peter Enyan-Boadu, Paul Parkman, Nick Verdino, **St. Lawrence:** Jeri Rombaut, Steve Amico, **St. Leo the Great:** Fr. Joseph Catanise, Barbara Surash, **St. Mark's:** Deacon Frank Pettrone, Peter Blind, Kimm Wesley, **Facilitator:** Karen Rinefierd, **Minutes Scribe:** Maryanne Sutton

**EXCUSED: Holy Cross/Our Mother of Sorrows:** Fr. William Coffas, Fr. Justin Miller, **Holy Cross:** Joseph DiVincenzo, Ryan Snyder, **St. Charles Borromeo:** Gina Reeder, David Steklenski, **St. Lawrence:** Fr. Lee Chase, **St. Leo the Great:** David Jones

## MINUTES

1) **Prayer** (John 1:35-42): faith sharing, intercessory prayers, the Lord's Prayer

2) **Updates and opportunity for questions/feedback to the committees:**

- Shared Lenten retreat
  - March 17-19 location TBD [after the meeting, the pastoral leaders agreed on Our Mother of Sorrows because of centrality and technical needs], 7-8 PM each night with the same session offered Monday and Tuesday 1-2 PM
  - Theme: Spirituality of Change: Being with Jesus
  - 3 presenters, Fr. Ed Palumbos (senior priest now assisting at Blessed Sacrament, St. Boniface and St. Mary's), Michael Sauter (Diocesan Director of Dept. of Pastoral Services), and Damian Zynda (Director of Mission and Ministry at McQuaid Jesuit)
- Evangelization
  - Advent flyer went out across all parishes. There has been positive feedback.
  - Working on a Lent flyer. Thank you to Parish Staff members for providing information to Karen in a timely fashion.
  - Evangelization Team working on compiling Electronic Resources to provide to parishioners to help them deepen their faith (e.g. apps, podcasts, YouTube channels, daily reflection emails).
  - They will also be supporting the Lenten Retreat.
- Vocations
  - They have met twice now, meeting again on 1/24/24.
  - Deacon Ed Giblin, Director of the diocese's Office of the Permanent Diaconate, is a member of the committee and brings valuable experience.
- 7-parish website
  - This is under construction as we speak, hoping to be up by Lent. Brendan Parker, Web Applications Developer for the diocese, is creating the site in collaboration with the committee.
  - Deacon Dave Squilla at St. Lawrence will be the Web Coordinator with Jenny Ertel as backup. The pastoral leaders have identified people at each parish who will be trained on the software and able to upload content.

3) **Discussion re. final Clustering Sub-Committee Report and preparation of any modifications before this draft goes to parish staffs, pastoral councils, finance councils, and parishioners at large for their input.**

Agreement that the language has to be very careful with wording that people understand.

2023 Mass attendance numbers will be added to the chart.

Several changes in wording were agreed on for the next draft. Action: Karen will incorporate them into the next

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draft with the help of Fr. Peter Enyan-Boadu (canonical language) and Dcn. Frank Pettrone. Then the draft will go to task force members for review.

### **4) Setting dates and possible locations for gathering input:**

- Parish Staffs Gathering: Tuesday, February 27, 11:30 am at St. John the Evangelist Parish Center
- Parish Pastoral Councils and Parish Finance Councils
  - Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 pm
  - Location: St. John's or St. Lawrence
- Parishioners at large (how many gatherings? daytime and evening?)
  - We will decide at the next task force meeting.

### **5) Reaching agreement on when the draft goes out and to whom**

- The draft report is confidential until it is finalized and presented to staffs.
- Important: do not share drafts outside of task force membership.
- We want to avoid confusion as additional changes are made.

### **6) Additional agenda item—preparing for the 4/8 solar eclipse: Fr. Catanise**

- Based on the experience of people in other parts of the United States during the last eclipse, our churches have to be prepared for Solar Eclipse people coming in and squatting on properties. People come as much as 4 days early.
- 350,000 people are expected to come into the Rochester area, and hotels are fully booked.
- Barb Surash shared the website for the local efforts: <https://rochestereclipse2024.org>. She also sent a copy of a presentation which is online at the website. It is being shared with pastoral leaders and task force members.

### **Next Task Force meeting:**

- **Tuesday, March 5th at 6:30 pm at St. John the Evangelist**