

# Pastoral Planning Update



St. Lambert Catholic Parish

Date: April 12, 2010

## Update...

Since the last newsletter, we held our fourth meeting on April 8<sup>th</sup> at Risen Savior Parish in Brandon.

The three main topics of this meeting were:

- Proposed Harrisburg parish
- Review Green Bay and Sioux City Diocesan Planning
- Sacramental loading analysis

## Proposed new parish

Bob Souvignier, the Pastoral Planning representative from Harrisburg, made a presentation on the need for a new parish in Harrisburg.

Currently they are 257 families with a Harrisburg address registered across the Sioux Falls Parishes. The largest number of Harrisburg families (131) are registered at Holy Spirit Parish. At St. Lambert, we have 11 families registered with a Harrisburg address.

## What other dioceses have done

The Dioceses of Green Bay and Sioux City have recently gone through similar Pastoral Planning initiatives. Some ideas from their final plans were shared.

The driving force for changes in these dioceses was the same as it is in the Diocese of Sioux Falls - the anticipated significant decline in priests in future years.

In both plans, the concept of parish clustering

was adopted. This is where previously independent parishes are “clustered” together under various pastoring models.

Several variations of pastoring models were presented. They ranged from separate parishes with individual pastors and coordinated activities to one pastor ministering to three parishes with a joint pastoral council.

The variations are countless. Each has its own advantages and disadvantages. It was interesting to learn that the Diocese of Green Bay has six different pastoring models currently in use.

## Sacramental Loading Analysis

In an effort to anticipate the sacramental needs of the parishioners in Sioux Falls Central Area Study Group, Team Works International (the survey company engaged by the Diocese) conducted a sacramental loading analysis. This analysis integrated a series of variables including various sacraments to estimate the amount of time each parish spends on sacraments annually.

The following variables were used in the analysis:

- Weddings – 13 hours
- Funerals – 12 hours
- Baptisms – 2 hours
- Sunday Mass – 3 hours

See the chart on the next page to see where St. Lambert Parish ranked for 2009.

Sacramental Loading Analysis Report

Parish	2009 Households	Sacramental Loading Index
St. Michael	1795	100
Holy Spirit	1463	71
St. Joseph	873	69
Christ the King	1048	68
St. Lambert	993	58
St. Mary	1050	57
St. Therese	640	55
Katherine Drexel	679	53
Risen Savior	596	47
Guadalupe	368	34

Next steps

Each of the Pastoral Planning Representatives was charged with the responsibility to bring at least one proposal to the May meeting.

Many parishioners have already contacted us with their ideas and concerns. We want to remind you once again that this is your opportunity to have input into a process that is likely to bring significant changes in the Sioux Falls parishes.

We will be meeting with the St. Lambert Parish Council on Tuesday, April 20<sup>th</sup> to put together the proposals from St. Lambert Parish which will be presented for consideration at the May meeting. Please use the contact information below to share your thoughts.

As the months of planning start to come together, we ask especially that you pray the Prayer for Pastoral Planning.

Contact Information

Noel & Mary Lais
334-0485
nlais@sio.midco.net

Prayer for Pastoral Planning

Almighty God, we the people of the Diocese of Sioux Falls prayerfully look to the future. During this time of pastoral planning, we implore the Holy Spirit to pour out upon us the gifts of wisdom, courage and hope.

May we exercise the virtue of prudence by opening our hearts and minds to be good stewards of the legacy of faith inherited from those who built the Church on the prairie;

May we exercise the virtue of justice by opening our hearts and minds to assure that the voices of persons from all generations, all vocations and all areas of the diocese are welcomed and respected;

May we exercise the virtue of fortitude by opening our hearts and minds to understand and acknowledge the spiritual and practical realities of our day and prepare for the days to come; and

May we exercise the virtue of temperance by opening our hearts and minds to accept the changes in diocesan, parish and personal life that the Holy Spirit, through this planning process, is guiding us to make.

Under the protection of Blessed Mary, our Mother, and St. Joseph, our patron, may we discern and implement what is best for the diocesan Church and all the faithful of Eastern South Dakota.

We pray this through Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

Next Meeting Information

- Date: Thursday, May 6
Time: 6:30 – 9:00 p.m.
Location: St. Mary Parish
Topics: Sioux Falls Central Study Group Proposals