

Pastoral Planning Update



St. Lambert Catholic Parish

Date: February 21, 2010

Update...

Since the last newsletter, we have held our second meeting on February 4th at St. Lambert Parish. We would like to thank those parishioners who braved the weather to attend. Just a reminder that all meetings are open to anyone and that at each meeting there is question/answer opportunity. Bishop Swain has emphasized that it is his desire that the entire process be transparent.

In case you missed the January 24th update, we are repeating the Suggested Plan. The suggested plan for the Central Study Group, which is comprised of the ten Sioux Falls parishes and Risen Savior Parish in Brandon, include among other options:

- No fulltime chaplains (hospitals, hospices, prison/jail, and schools)
- No associates at St. Michael or St. Lambert Parishes
- No more than three Sunday liturgies celebrated at each parish (including the Saturday Vigil)

One of the options that has generated many comments is the proposal about weekend liturgies. The following is an excerpt of a recent letter to the priests/deacons from Bishop Paul Swain:

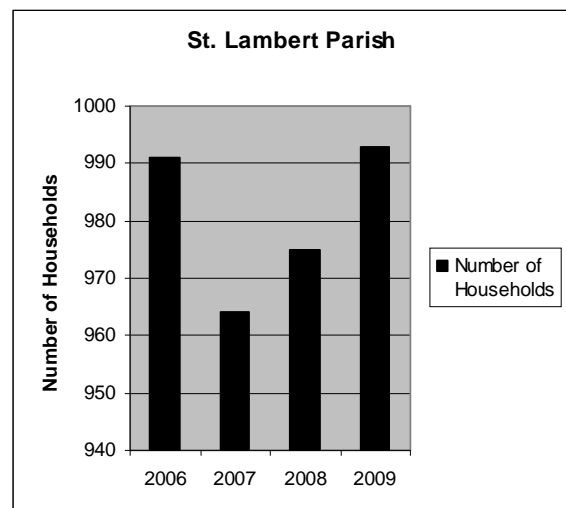
For planning purposes certain parameters have been established to guide planning proposals. Among them is that we plan for priests to celebrate no more than three Masses, Saturday Vigils and Sunday Masses. This is not a question of how many Masses a priest is permitted to celebrate according to canon law, but rather what is the practical reality for future planning. Some priests are

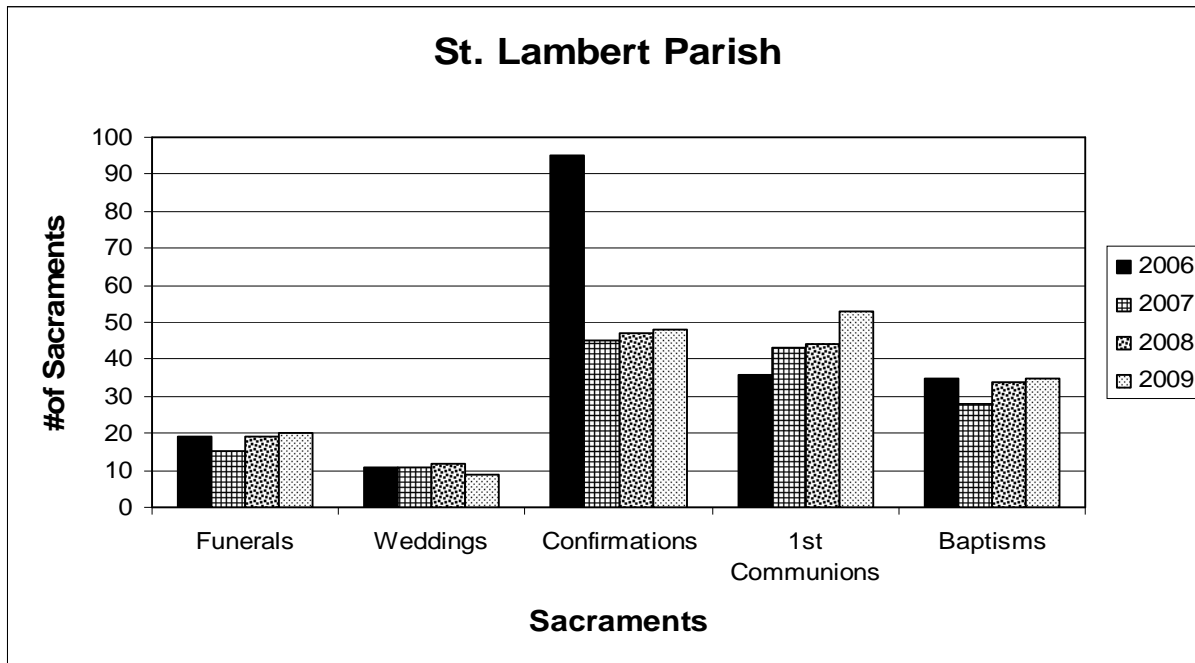
able to celebrate more Masses than others and canon law allows pastoral discretion. Yet we cannot plan for the longer term based on individual priests who may not be in those assignments over time. Planning calls us to look to the future, not just today.

As your parish representatives, we would like to hear what your thoughts are about the Suggested Plan. How do you feel about not having an associate at St. Lambert Parish? Do you have a concern about the number of weekend liturgies? Is not having a chaplain at the hospitals or O’Gorman High School a concern to you? We encourage you to contact us at nlais@sio.midco.net or call 334-0485.

Interesting Statistics

Part of the groundwork for the Pastoral Planning process began with gathering statistics from each of the parishes in the Diocese of Sioux Falls. Here are some interesting statistics on St. Lambert Parish.





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, March 4th
- Time:** 6:30 – 9:00 p.m.
- Location:** Christ the King
- Topics:** Presentation on chaplains, Financial review