

Pastoral Planning Update



St. Lambert Catholic Parish

Date: *May 12, 2010*

Update...

The fifth meeting of the Sioux Falls Central Study Group was held on May 6 at St. Mary Parish. It was good to see that this meeting was one of the best attended.

Deacon Roger Heidt opened the meeting by advising the parish representatives that it will not be necessary to include the hospital and prison chaplains in the Study Group proposal. Bishop Swain has advised that the hospital and prison chaplain ministries will be addressed separately.

The pastoral planning representatives indicated that this new piece of information could have a significant effect on their proposals. However, we agreed to present the ideas that we had with the understanding that these ideas would likely change due to the new information about chaplains. Much of the remainder of the meeting was spent reviewing the ideas that each of the parishes offered for consideration.

It's important to remember that the ideas that were presented were only ideas. The Sioux Falls Central Study Group has not reached consensus on any of these ideas nor have they been offered to Bishop Swain at this point.

As always, the last part of the meeting was reserved for open discussion from anyone present at the meeting. The ideas presented obviously stirred some thoughts, as there was good discussion at this meeting.

The following is a summary of some of the ideas presented:

- retain Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish to keep the Spanish culture alive
- cluster Our Lady of Guadalupe and St. Josephine Bakhita with St. Joseph Cathedral Parish
- cluster St. Lambert and St. Therese parishes
- cluster St. Mary's and Christ the King parishes
- eliminate hospital liturgies
- cluster Risen Savior, St. Rose of Lima, St. Joseph-Huntimer, St. Mary-Dell Rapids and St. Peter-Colman parishes
- Christ the King to become a Newman Center
- cluster St. Michael and St. Katharine Drexel parishes
- assign priests to cover each hospital and nursing home
- create a parish center in Harrisburg
- open a parish in Harrisburg
- don't open a parish in Harrisburg at this time
- create a diocesan-wide Office of Coordinated Ministries to coordinate the chaplaincy needs
- keep a chaplain at O'Gorman High School
- cluster St. Therese and Risen Savior parishes

Next steps

At our next meeting we will hear the ideas from the remaining parishes. After we have heard from all the parishes, the next task will be to build consensus on these ideas, ultimately resulting in a recommendation to Bishop Swain. As you can see from the list, the ideas are widely varied and far-reaching. We encourage your input. At each of the meetings, there is time for people to speak. Also if you prefer, you may contact us with your thoughts and ideas and we will bring them to the meeting.

Our remaining meetings will be very important. We hope to see you there.

Contact Information

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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, June 3
Time:	6:30 – 9:00 p.m.
Location:	St. Therese Parish
Topics:	Additional Parish Proposals, Developing Consensus on Proposals