



ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

VISION: 21ST CENTURY - *LIVING OUR FAITH*

DISTRICT 9

GROWTH IN HOLINESS ✦ STRENGTHEN PARISHES ✦ FOSTER VOCATIONS ✦ STRENGTHEN EDUCATION ✦ JUSTICE & CHARITY ✦ STEWARDSHIP

DISTRICT-WIDE DIRECTIVES

It is in the local churches that a pastoral plan can be identified which will enable the proclamation of Christ to reach people, mold communities, and have a deep and incisive influence on bringing Gospel values to bear in society and culture.

Pope John Paul II, at the close of the Great Jubilee Year 2000, *Novo Millennio Invenite*

2007-2008 PLANNING INITIATIVE – A NEW APPROACH TO SOME ASPECTS OF ARCHDIOCESAN MINISTRY

1. This planning project was framed by the need to balance the budget of the central offices, while also protecting ministerial services within the context of fewer central office employees and fewer priests in active ministry. As a result, there is a new approach to some aspects of archdiocesan ministry. But the success of the new approach hinges on the success of the mostly yet-to-be-established working ministerial commissions. These working commissions are to identify, define, formulate and implement initiatives, programs and ministries. No longer can this leadership be provided by central office personnel exactly as in the past. Now, as never before, people from the parishes who participate in the working ministerial commissions will share the role of setting the archdiocesan ministerial direction with personnel from the central offices.
2. Moreover, the responsibilities and goals of the commissions will be established in response to the goals and priorities that are identified at the local level (districts and clusters). The local level goals and priorities will result from frequent and collaborative meetings that include parish lay leaders and lay ecclesial ministers, women and men religious, deacons and priests from the cluster or district, all meeting together. How this is achieved in one cluster or district might vary from what is done in other clusters or districts because one size does not fit all.
3. Therefore, as these persons expand their conversations on the local level (clusters and districts meeting frequently and together), they will set and implement short-term goals that address needs existing in their area or maybe ideas expressed in the General Observations and Recommendations. In so doing, they share in strengthening the faith among the people of that specific portion of the Church. Furthermore, as some of these people join archdiocesan commissions, they also will be participating in the effort to see that the limited archdiocesan resources are applied wisely and effectively.
4. Finally, these local level conversations also will help parish communities to prepare for the presence of fewer priests in active ministry. Additionally, these conversations will provide the opportunity to identify how the priests in active ministry can continue to do so, but with more limited administrative responsibilities than priest have nowadays.

ACCOUNTABILITY FOR PLANNING



ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE
VISION: 21ST CENTURY - *LIVING OUR FAITH*
DISTRICT 9

GROWTH IN HOLINESS ✦ STRENGTHEN PARISHES ✦ FOSTER VOCATIONS ✦ STRENGTHEN EDUCATION ✦ JUSTICE & CHARITY ✦ STEWARDSHIP

5. We ask every district to support our archdiocesan commitment to on-going planning. Therefore we direct the District Dean and the representative District APC member to work together to plan at least two annual gatherings that include the presbyterate, APC district assembly members, parish council officers and pastoral staffs of your district.
 - a. An autumn meeting, for the purpose of:
 - i. reviewing these specific directives and the successive outcomes of on-going district planning;
 - ii. making a mutual commitment to implement district and cluster goals in support and respect of one another's ministries;
 - iii. making a mutual commitment to implement district and cluster goals that address the general directives and promote archdiocesan initiatives; and
 - iv. strengthening inter-parish communication.
 - b. A spring meeting for the purpose of assessing the state of the Mission of the Church in your district by:
 - i. evaluating progress made on district-wide goals and initiatives;
 - ii. sharing best practices in ministry;
 - iii. updating the district and cluster plans by setting goals for the following fiscal year; and
 - iv. preparing reports to the ACP and APC.

DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

6. For the sake of the church's mission and to strengthen collaboration, we direct the lay and pastoral leadership of the Catholic Community of the city of Sheboygan organize into two clusters:
 - A south-side cluster that includes Immaculate Conception, St. Cyril and Methodius and St. Peter Claver parishes; and
 - A north-side cluster that includes Holy Name, St. Clement and St. Dominic parishes.

PARTICULAR DIRECTIVES FOR

South-side Cluster Parishes

- Immaculate Conception, St. Cyril and Methodius, and St. Peter Claver parishes
 - Continue to be served by a priest, parish director and assisting priest as a team.
 - Southside Leadership Council continue to function and perhaps expand into a cluster pastoral council for the purpose of communication and planning.
 - Strengthen Catholic education through Christ Child Academy.
 - St. Peter Claver continue to serve as the spiritual home for the Hmong community.
 - Principals of St. Mary's School at Blessed Trinity (Sheboygan Falls) and Christ Child Academy should work more collaboratively together on joint student projects, teacher training, etc. Use technology to bring students from both schools together for these projects (pod casts, web cam discussions, etc.).

North-side Cluster Directives

- Holy Name, St. Clement and St. Dominic Parishes



ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE
VISION: 21ST CENTURY - LIVING OUR FAITH
DISTRICT 9

GROWTH IN HOLINESS ✦ STRENGTHEN PARISHES ✦ FOSTER VOCATIONS ✦ STRENGTHEN EDUCATION ✦ JUSTICE & CHARITY ✦ STEWARDSHIP

- In the future these congregations may be served by an *in solidum* team of priests. If so, at least one priest should be bilingual with Hispanic Ministry as his primary ministry.
- Form a North-side Leadership Council similar to the one on the Southside to encourage collaboration, mutual planning and improve inter-parish communication. In time this could expand into a cluster pastoral council.
- St. Clement continue to serve as the spiritual home for the Hispanic community
- Strengthen Catholic education through Holy Family School and St. Dominic School.

Cluster B

- St. John the Baptist in Plymouth and St. Thomas Aquinas in Elkhart Lake
 - In June these parishes will be linked*, sharing a pastor. Welcome the opportunity that a shared pastor provides each parish, as a new positive beginning for your parishes.
 - Form a bi-parish pastoral council to encourage collaboration, mutual planning and improve inter-parish communication but retain separate finance committees.

Cluster C

- St. John Evangelist in Kohler and Blessed Trinity in Sheboygan Falls
 - Continue as linked* parishes. Continue to hold joint council meetings at least twice a year to exchange information and common concerns.
 - We encourage the principals of St. Mary's School at Blessed Trinity and Christ Child Academy to work more collaboratively together on joint student projects, teacher training, etc. Use technology to bring students and teachers from both schools together for these projects.
 - St. John the Evangelist community up-date the Building Commission on your plans to expand your Church before the end of the calendar year 2008.

*Linked parishes share a pastor.