

Minutes from November 18, 2008 Collaborative Meeting

Host parish: St. Zepherin, Wayland

Facilitator: Sr. Mary Ann Doyle, CSJ

Present: staff members from St. Zepherin Wayland, St. Julia Weston, St. Ann Wayland, St. Anselm Sudbury, Our Lady of Fatima Sudbury

Following Introductions, Marge O'Day led us in prayer

Discussion 1

Parishes shared demographics about their parish make up, parish programs, staff positions, numbers of parishioners, numbers of religious education students and students making sacraments, various ministries etc.

Discussion 2

Each parish shared various challenges that faced them at present such as; one parish with 2 parish sites, 2 parishes with one pastor, issues facing a repressed parish, dealing with a more secular society, difficulty in finding volunteers, finding a sense of community in large numbers, etc.

Discussion 3

Above discussion lead into a lively sharing on views concerning collaboration both from a pragmatic and theological viewpoint. Issues were raised about the importance of doing things from a grassroots position as well as getting some mandates from the Archdiocese to follow. What are we specifically going to do to prepare for the year 2015 when there will be less than 212 priests left in the Archdiocese for over 300 parishes? How are we as a collaborative going to have an important role in this planning because of the particular issues we are dealing with in each of our parishes? How do we make the changes that are coming a reality to the people? **It was decided that we should come up with a few goals for our collaborative in order to deal with these issues that were raised. Each parish is to come to our next meeting with one or two ideas for goals they feel are important.**

Discussion 4

Dates were shared for parishes' First Reconciliation services and number of priests that were needed. Some priests are still needed for the following dates and times:

Parish	Date	Time	Need	Please contact DRE at each parish
St. Zepherin	Tues., Feb. 3	6:30PM	3 Priests	
St. Anselm	Sat., Jan 31	11AM	2 Priests	
St. Julia	Sat., Feb. 7	11AM	1 Priest	
OLF	Sat., Dec. 6	11AM	3 Priests	

Discussion 5

St. Anselm offered to host an Advent prayer Service on Monday December 15 at 7pm.

Discussion 6

Parishes shared positive feelings about the Arise Program.

Discussion 7

John Nicholson shared the ideas that the Collaborative Lenten Mission Committee had come up with so far. It was decided to plan for a 4 day mission the week of Monday March 3rd to Thursday March 5th. The format was to have Monday and Tuesday nights evenings for prayer, music, talk and reflection. Wed would be an evening for Reconciliation and Thursday would be a closing Mass and reception. Each night would be held at a different parish. **This has to be determined at our next meeting.** Members of the committee will pursue finding a speaker for all 4 nights following a concurring theme. If a speaker is not possible we will need to have staff members lead a mission night. **This also has to be put on the agenda for our next meeting.**

Discussion 8

Our next meeting will be held at St. Anselm's on Thursday Jan. 15th from 1-3pm. The agenda will include the sharing of one or two collaborative goals from each parish and the working out of all the details of the Lenten Mission.

Closing Prayer was led by Joyce Pinney from St. Zepherin.

To Do

Bring one or two goal suggestions to next Collaborative meeting

Responsibility

Each parish

Agenda Items for next meeting:

Determine schedule for Lenten Mission

Finalize speakers for Lenten Mission