

SOUTH SHORE CLUSTER PARISHES -Vision and Ministry Plan-

MISSION STATEMENT

Realizing that in the immediate future the parishes of Nativity of the Lord, Immaculate Conception, St. Augustine of Hippo, St. Paul, St. Veronica and Sacred Heart of Jesus will be faced with fewer priests to serve our sacramental needs we gather to provide opportunities to be just stewards of our resources, witness, celebrate and proclaim the Word of God. Our Mission is to nourish others through outreach, education and worship so they may grow in faith, commitment and love. We look forward to a time of change and growth in the Spirit, confident in the God who calls and strengthens us.

VISION STATEMENT

The South Shore Parishes celebrates the presence of God in our midst and embraces the call to strengthen our individual parishes by deepening our sense of communion as a parish in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee and the exploring of new possibilities for a clustering relationship.

- Each parish will retain its own name, worship site, history, culture and identity.
- Develop a system for the parishes in the cluster to maximize and/or share staff, ministries and programs as well as focusing on developing new ministries.
- Following Canon Law, each parish will retain its own trustees, finance committee, monitor its own finances and parish property. Common expenses will be paid through an agreed upon assessment (i.e, Christian Formation staff).
- Some parish ministries may become cluster ministries. This is an opportunity to strengthen our sacramental preparation programs(s), religious education, youth ministry, adult formation, human concerns, liturgical ministry training and stewardship. By sharing our gifts and talents with one another we open ourselves even more to the work of the Holy Spirit and become stronger.
- Individual parish councils will continue to meet and function in each of the six parishes in the cluster with joint council meetings to be held four times a year.

We affirm the Archbishop's ministerial priorities in the five areas of mission:

Christian Formation, to strengthen Catholic education and formation as well as foster a sense of vocation

Prayer and Worship, to promote growth in holiness

Human Concerns, to emphasize justice and charity

Finance/Administrative Services, to develop stewardship

School, to promote our Catholic School and programs

We dedicate our efforts to bring this vision and these priorities into reality through our ministry plan.

MINISTRY PLAN

Christian Formation

- Hire an Adult and Family minister
- Promote and continue the promotion of existing and new formation opportunities both within the cluster and within the Archdiocese
- Hire a full-time youth and young adult minister who will develop a youth ministry and young adult ministry team

Prayer and Worship

- Adapt the Mass schedule to meet the needs of the cluster
- Communicate Mass times for all parishes in the cluster
- Develop and coordinate a schedule for other devotions and prayer experiences and communicate to all parishes
- Explore the use of common materials, such as hymnals

Human Concerns

- Establish an ongoing meeting of all Human Concerns
- Develop an e-mail group of Human Concerns' members from all parishes and develop a regular communication strategy
- Identify areas where subcommittees could collaborate within the six parishes
- Communicate to parishes how Human Concerns and other ecumenical activities serve our community

Finance/Administrative Services

- Explore ways of saving money through bulk purchases, such as salt, plowing, etc.
- Explore ways to collect fees for the formation programs
- Investigate the possibility of having a combined bulletin

School

- Promote our Catholic School and programs
- Create opportunities to help finance tuition/scholarship grants
- Develop skilled/advanced placement courses/curriculum
- Conduct a feasibility study for a day care