



Autumn 2005

## District 1 – Kenosha County, East of I-94

### **God's People in southeastern Wisconsin are committed to ensuring**

- Access to the Eucharist in its totality, namely Word, Sacrament, Service and Community for all the faithful
- Opportunities to live Eucharistic lives through practice of spiritual and corporal works of mercy, and
- Wise stewardship of our human and temporal resources.

### **Regarding Your District Directives**

We have seen and affirm the ways you have advanced the Gospel through...

- **Meeting, discussing and developing a district plan for Hispanic Ministry.**
- **Collaborative Confirmation preparation and celebrations**
- **Learning new, common music within clusters.**

We have heard and informed **St. Francis Seminary of your suggestion/request for greater visibility and course offerings within your district.**

We acknowledge **the June 2005 pastoral changes invite a district-wide discussion of Mass schedules and pastoral care for hospitals and nursing homes.**

### **Moving Forward on Our Journey of Faith Together**

We heard, understand and agree with the universally shared opinion that there were too many district-wide directives in the 2004 plan. Therefore, we invite you to focus on the six archdiocesan priorities offered to us by Archbishop Dolan in 2004 as stated below.

#### **1. Grow in Holiness**

- Eucharist is the “source and summit” of our lives. To ensure the highest quality of liturgical celebrations, employ or share a full-time director of liturgy and music. Make a commitment to training and forming all liturgical ministers. Develop a repertoire of music for use at all liturgies to enhance the full conscious and active participation by the faithful at liturgy. (on-going)
- Continue or adjust weekend Mass schedules that provide access to the Eucharist over a span of time each weekend within the district. (On-going)
- If you have not already done so, either as a district, a cluster, or a parish form an evangelization committee. Offer the committee formation resources from the Office for Evangelization (By June, 2006). Ask the Committee to develop a 3-year evangelization plan and be prepared to implement it not later than September, 2007.



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- As a district or in clusters, offer a variety of ways for people to grow spiritually through study, reflection, small group faith sharing, communal prayer and devotions. Promote these offerings throughout the district. (On-going)
- 2. Strengthen our parishes**
- Employ qualified professionals to serve and support the pastoral and administrative ministries of the parish and or cluster. (On-going)
  - Promote the healing ministry of Christ and foster holistic health and wellness within the parish by using the expertise of a parish nurse or sharing one with other parishes. (On-going)
- 3. Strengthen Catholic Education and Lifelong Faith Formation**
- Support and encourage parents as first educators of their children. (On-going)
  - Develop a district-wide plan where every parish in the district, with and without schools, will contribute to the support Catholic elementary and secondary schools. (By February, 2006 to implement in 2006-07 school year.)
  - Strengthen catechetical ministry. Recruit, train and support faithful catechists. Invest children with a strong sense of Catholic identity rooted in the Church's sacramental life. (On-going)
- 4. Develop a “Culture of Vocations”**
- Educate the faithful about God's universal call to holiness. (On-going)
  - Encourage, invite, train and form all lay ministers in the parish. (On-going)
  - Urge effective lay ministers to seek certification or higher education for ministry through one of the seminaries, colleges or universities ministry programs. Offers some financial support toward their degree. (Parishioners & parish Finance Committees)
  - Support those discerning a call to ministry by prayer—individual and communal, mentoring/companioning, and genuine and repeated invitations to consider a vocation to ordained priesthood and diaconate, and to religious life. (On-going)

The Archdiocesan recruitment goal is a minimum of 68 new seminarians or religious in formation by the year 2009, which is about .0001 of our Catholic Population. This district is challenged by the Archdiocesan Vocations office for the recruitment of 3 seminarians or novices by 2009.



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**5. Emphasize our Mission of Justice and Charity**

- Preach about and teach the spiritual and corporal works of mercy (On-going)
- Use the talents and services of parish deacons, human concerns ministers and committees, to continually help parishes and clusters contribute to the social ministry of the Church as we build the reign of God. (On-going)
- Contribute generously to the combined collections in response to the needs of the poor in our church and our world (Annually)
- Support justice efforts of the Wisconsin Catholic Conference

**6. Stewardship**

- As good stewards, share your human and material resources with people in need in the local, national and international Church. (On-going)
- Because plans and circumstances change over time, continue the planning process. Work with your district Dean, your Archdiocesan Pastoral Council (APC) member, your parish consultant(s), the Vicar for Planning, Fr. Brian Mason to discern, design and implement and evaluate your plans to address these archdiocesan priorities. In April, 2006 you will provide another progress report to the Implementation Commission.



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## District 1 – Kenosha County, East of I-94

To District 1 Cluster Parishes

- St. Anthony
- St. Elizabeth
- Holy Rosary
- St. James
- Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
- St. Peter

**G**race to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God at every remembrance of you, praying always with joy in my every prayer for all of you, because of your partnership for the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus. It is right that I should think this way about all of you, because I hold you in my heart, you who are all partners with me in grace.

*Philippians 1: 2-7*

We commend you for your efforts to meet together to discuss partnership potential and collaboration options as a cluster. We are confident that you will continue to meet and work together in meaningful ways to address demographic shifts, financial concerns and growing needs of your parishioners.

We know the pastoral change at Mt Carmel may entail special transition adjustments for pastor, staff and parishioners following the tenure of a beloved and long-term pastor. The Department for Worship and Pastoral Services and the Vicar for Clergy are prepared to assist if any need should arise. We encourage the leadership of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel to pursue cluster and district dialogue especially with St. James' leadership, to develop plans to ensure vibrant parish life.

We applaud St. Anthony Parish for developing Senior Citizen Outreach at your site for all the parishes! Keep us informed of the progress of this important ministry.

We support and look forward to the strategic planning results from St. Peter Parish as they address current and future ministry and space needs.

Congratulations on the development of a cluster website by a St. James parishioner. We will watch to see how the site progresses.

We offer the assistance of your new parish consultant, Schauneille Allan, and the Vicar for Hispanic Ministry as all the parishes in Kenosha to understand and plan for Hispanic Ministry for District 1.



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## District 1 – Kenosha County, East of I-94

To District 1 Cluster Parishes

- St. Anne
- St. Mark
- St. Mary
- St. Therese

**G***race to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God at every remembrance of you, praying always with joy in my every prayer for all of you, because of your partnership for the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus. It is right that I should think this way about all of you, because I hold you in my heart, you who are all partners with me in grace,*

*Philippians 1: 2-7*

With the whole church in southeastern Wisconsin we congratulate St. Anne Parish for completing the building of and dedicating their worship space. The Spirit is alive and your membership is growing!

We encourage St. Therese Parish leadership to continue and complete your facilities usage study by December 2005.

We hear and acknowledge the challenges all of you face given changing demographics, land development and population growth, financial concerns and pastoral and staff needs. On-going planning is essential for all of us.

We commend your cluster, especially St. Mark and St. Anthony parish leadership, for opening the conversation on Hispanic Ministry in District 1. We offer the assistance of your new parish consultant, Schauneille Allan, and the Vicar for Hispanic Ministry as all the parishes of your district embrace the need for a plan for Hispanic Ministry in the Kenosha area.