

IMPLEMENTATION COMMISSION REPORT 2005-06

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

Introduction

“...Access to the Eucharist in its fullness for all the faithful.”

This Vision to be a Eucharistic Church, supported by the six archdiocesan pastoral priorities, has been and continues to be the focus of all our archdiocesan planning.

On April 1, 2006 representatives of all the parishes/clusters and districts throughout the archdiocese gathered with you, the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council and us to share their accomplishments and concerns for fulfilling this vision.

What We Heard

1. Collaboration works!

The accomplishments enumerated were many and varied and largely due to quality inter-parish partnerships. “Collaboration” has become a natural and valued option as parishes strive to be wise stewards of temporal and human resources, especially those who share the ministry of a pastor.

“Collaboration is in the drinking water.”

Parishes and clusters told us they recognize the power of working together to strengthen Catholic education in schools, catechetical programs and adult formation opportunities. More and more they report their confidence in the talented and trained lay ministers who lead them in their efforts to embody Christ in our world today.

2. There is a sense of impending loss of Sunday Eucharist and concern for pastors.

- Three interrelated concerns were echoed district by district:
- ✧ The continued downward trend in Sunday Mass attendance in 13 of 16 districts
 - ✧ The potential for loss of regular Sunday Eucharist due to shortage of clergy
 - ✧ Over-burdening our already stretched and aging pastors.

Parishioners in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee cannot imagine themselves without priests as sacramental ministers, leaders of their faith communities, spiritual guides and friends.

“Don’t let us become a people starved for the Eucharist.”

Linked to this they recognize the stress on their priests, especially those who serve in multiple parishes or parish and other ministries. The faithful want their pastors to live balanced lives where body and soul are nurtured and supported. They also encourage pastors to find ways to use the expertise of the members in meaningful ways.

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3. From Ripon to Racine, Sharon to Sheboygan, Lake Geneva to Elkhart Lake active, involved parishioners want to help pastors with the areas of the apostolate that are open to them. Recognizing their need for formation and training they continue to ask for action on your part, Archbishop, and on our central office staff to provide regional training for lay ministries.

“ Bring us leadership training opportunities! Please. ”

“ Bilingual, por favor. ”

4. Help us deepen our knowledge of Catholic Social Teaching so that we can do our part of the mission of justice and charity.

“ We don’t know what ‘advocacy’ involves. ”

About the Directives

These directives are our recommendations to you, Archbishop. There are three sets:

1. General Directives for all Districts
2. District Directives with specific action by the district, and
3. Special Recommendation to Archdiocesan Leadership

We seek your approval of these recommendations and urge you to call for their study and action by all the faithful at the leadership Conference October 21, 2006.

General Directives

We have selected three areas for work by all clusters/districts in the coming year. These directives place special emphasis on the common concerns and priorities:

- ✧ Growth in holiness, increasing Mass attendance
- ✧ Strengthening Catholic Education and
- ✧ Our mission of justice and charity.

Given the interconnection of all our priorities, the other three priorities will also benefit through this work:

- ✧ Strengthen parishes
- ✧ Foster a sense of Vocation and
- ✧ Stewardship.

Particular Directives to Districts/Clusters are included in each district section.

A Special Recommendation to Archdiocesan Leadership

We add our voices to those of the faithful urging Archdiocesan Leadership to develop a plan in consultation with district leadership, to offer a variety of lay ministry trainings at locations within the archdiocese at some distance from Milwaukee, during the 2007-08 fiscal year.

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General Directives, 2006–07 for all Districts

John 6: 48-51

I am the bread of life. ...I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world."

We recommend three particular areas for action this year in all parishes.

1. Grow in Holiness: Improving Sunday Mass Attendance

In this report we include Mass Attendance data comparing the number of attendees to the number of registered members. Graphs illustrate mass attendance trends for the past six years. Three districts, 9, 13 and 14 are beginning to show positive trends in attendance. ***We challenge every parish, cluster and district to explore ways to increase attendance of registered members by 20% this year.***

2. Strengthening Catholic School Education

We ask each parish to tell us what Catholic school(s) they support and how.

3. Upholding Our Mission of Charity and Justice

We urge each district or cluster to discern an area(s) to study, educate the faithful and work as advocates for justice and charity. Some timely topics and resources we recommend are:

Wisconsin Catholic Conference: Election 2006

[Faithful Citizenship - Elections 2006](#)

National Committee for a Human Life Amendment

[National Committee for Human Life Amendment](#)

Catholic Relief Services

[Giving Hope to a World of Need](#)

Justice for Immigrants

[Justice for Immigrants](#)

Or, contact:

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IMPLEMENTATION COMMISSION REPORT

2005-06 Report/Response

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

District: 5
 Location by County: Waukesha County west
 Dean: Very Rev. John G. Yockey
 APC Member: Vivianne Whitcomb, Blessed Teresa of Calcutta Parish

Cluster	Parishes	Total Registered Members 2005	Average Mass attendance 2005 (% of reg.)	Church seating /# weekend Masses	Elementary School Enrollment
A	St. Bruno, Dousman	2,231	950 (43%)	650/3	100
	St. Jerome, Oconomowoc	3,956	1,372 (35%)	429/5	308
	St. Joan of Arc, Delafield	2,617	912 (35%)	620/3	115
	St. Paul, Genesee Depot	3,617	1,106 (31%)	350/4	171
B	Queen of Apostles, Pewaukee	4,321	1,687 (39%)	1200/3	180
	St. Anthony, Pewaukee	5,044	1,840 (36%)	900/4	190
	St. Charles, Hartland	5,886	1,598 (27%)	750/4	206
C1	St. Catherine, Mapleton	2,513	1,203 (48%)	650/3	0
C2	St. Clare, North Lake (Bl Teresa)	2,092	742 (35%)	280/4	0
	St. John, Monches (Bl Teresa)	393	200 (50%)	300/1	0
D	St. Joseph, Big Bend	4,146	1,019 (25%)	880/3	158
	St. Leonard, Muskego	5,229	1,754 (34%)	880/4	202
E	St. James, Mukwanago	3,824	1,308 (34%)	602/4	153
	St. Theresa, Eagle	1,252	467 (37%)	225/3	0
Totals	District Parishes	13	47,121	16,060 (34%)	48 Weekend Masses
Archdiocesan Parish Priests					14
Religious Order Parish Priests					0
Parish Directors					0
Permanent Deacons					9
Ratio: Parish Priest to Registered Parishioner					1 : 3,366
Ratio: Parish Priest to Mass Attendees					1 : 1,147
Catholic Schools & Other Catholic Institutions					
Catholic Memorial High School, Waukesha					729 Students
Redemptorist Retreat Center					

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2005-06 Report/Response

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Total number of registered Catholics in Waukesha County: 116,442 and 40% are registered in District 5.

Population

Waukesha County, Wisconsin has 556 sq. miles in land area and a population density of 649.4 people per square mile (361,066). In 2003 the total population of Waukesha County was estimated to be 374,079. In the period from April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2003 its population is estimated to have changed by 3.7%.

Demographics

On the 2000 census, 95.8% of the population reported to be White and 0.7% African-American. Other races tallied; Native American: 0.2%, Asian: 1.5%, and Hawaiian/Pacific Island origin: 0.0%. The Hispanic population (any origin) of Waukesha County is 2.6%. 26.3% were under 18 years old while 12.0% were of retirement age, 65 years old and over.

Waukesha County had 135,229 households in 2000 with a median household income of \$62,839 as compared to the Wisconsin state-wide median family income of \$43,791. The average income per person was \$29,164 versus Wisconsin's \$21,271. Poverty levels for the county and state were 2.7% and 8.7%, respectively.

Home Owners - Real Estate

In 2002 there were 145,511 housing units in Waukesha County with 23.2% of them in multi-unit structures. The home ownership rate was 76.4% and the median value of an owner-occupied home was \$170,400. Across the entire state of Wisconsin the median value of an owner-occupied home was \$112,200. In 2002, 2,367 building permits were authorized for home and/or apartment construction.

Business and Jobs

Residents of the county have an average commute time to work of 22.2 minutes. As of 2001 there were 12,526 private, non-farm, payroll-generating businesses in Waukesha County. The total number of private, non-farm jobs was 220,919 which changed -1.9% in the period 2000-2001.

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District Commendations

- We commend all parishes in your district that have and continue to plan and adjust to the surging growth in your county. This year we congratulate St. Bruno on the completion of your new worship space and renovation of the old church; St. Paul undertaking the expansion of your church and St. Jerome preparing to build a new church.
- We commend the faithful of Sts. John and Clare for your care in planning and implementing of your merger into Blessed Teresa of Calcutta parish.
- We encourage Ss. Theresa and James to continue planning together and individually for your futures.

District Directives for 2006-07:

We strongly urge the leadership in your district, namely, the district dean, all clergy and parish representatives to the APC district assemblies to meet together twice a year, fall and late winter, to give special attention to the following recommendations, setting reasonable goals (fall) and measuring your progress (spring) on the following:

1. **Grow in Holiness**

- Study the Mass attendance of your district. We ask you to work together as a district to increase overall regular Mass attendance by 20% in every parish. Urge your Prayer and Worship Committees to develop common strategies, present them to the district pastors and implement them. We look forward to hearing of your success.
- Watch for and plan to send a parish representative to one of the information sessions provided by the Director of Evangelization to learn about an archdiocesan-wide small group study to be initiated in 2007-08 called: *Why Catholic?* If feasible, plan your 2007-08 budget to include participation in the program and identify leaders to be trained as parish program facilitators. This program is available in Spanish as well.

2. **Strengthen Parishes**

- We are aware that those of you with large parishes have very "full plates." We have no intention of asking more of you than to continue to encourage your parish councils, committees and staffs to strive for excellence in their ministry areas.

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2005-06 Report/Response

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

3. **Foster Vocations**

- Continue to encourage prayer for, education about and invitation to Holy Orders and vowed religious life.
- Help singles find meaningful ways to encourage one another in Christian living and participate in parish life and outreach.
- Lift up marriage as a unique expression and witness of God's love for the church. Renew and strengthen parish efforts in marriage preparation and support for young married couples.

4. **Strengthen Catholic Education/Promote Lifelong Faith Formation**

- Support and encourage all teachers of religious education in your schools and catechetical programs, and adults who facilitate adult formation programs, to work toward catechetical certification and recognize those who receive their certificates.

5. **Uphold Our Mission of Justice and Charity**

- Gather the Human Concerns committees of all the parishes for the purpose of identifying one or two areas to study, to educate the faithful, and design and implement an advocacy plan.
- Celebrate the 25th Anniversary of our sister relationship with Sagrada Familia parish in the Dominican Republic!

6. **Be Wise Stewards**

- Continue to be prudent and grateful stewards of all we have received.

