

***Saint Brigid Parish, Blessed Sacrament Parish,
and Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish***

April 7, 2006

Dear Parishioners of Saint Brigid Parish, Blessed Sacrament Parish, and Assumption Parish:

We are nearing the end of this season of Lent. We hope this has been a time of spiritual growth and renewal for you. May the upcoming celebrations of Holy Week and Easter fill your hearts with the joy of our Risen Lord.

We are pleased to inform you that we are coming to the end of our Midland Catholic Clustering Project. Recently we three pastors, along with the other members of the process team, met to study the input from the January Gathering in which parishioners indicated their support for 21 proposals in the areas of Catholic schools, Adult faith formation and Youth faith formation. These proposals represented the culmination of a process that began in September and October 2004 with the Fall Gatherings at Valley Plaza and continued through the Fall of 2005 with the work of task forces on these three areas.

After careful study and prayer, we have reached our decisions regarding the proposals in these areas. And so it is now time to shift gears in our process from a LISTENING mode to an IMPLEMENTATION mode. We have our decisions from the project, now it is time to make them happen.

A summary of these decisions is listed on the next page, which also includes decisions from our Spring 2005 task force process on Liturgy/Sacraments, Vocations and Sharing Resources. As you can see, some have an immediate impact; others will be implemented over time. In addition, the full text of the proposals and the results of the April 2005 and January 2006 gatherings can be found at www.midlandcatholics.org. A copy of these documents is also available in each of the three parish offices.

To make these decisions a reality, we need your help. Our parish staffs simply cannot do all that these decisions require and so we will be counting on volunteers to step forward and help. In the coming months you will have many opportunities to get involved. We ask that provide some of your time and talent to help make these needed initiatives a reality.

Lastly, we wish to express our appreciation to all Midland Catholics for having walked the journey this far with us. We look forward to continuing to walk this path together with you all.

Prayerfully, your pastors,

Fr. James Wm. Bessert
Saint Brigid Parish

Fr. Peter J. Gaspeny
Blessed Sacrament Parish

Fr. Richard M. Filary
Assumption Parish