

Decisions from Spring 2005 Task Force Proposals

The following decisions were made by the three Midland pastors after considering the suggestions made in the three task force subject areas:

1. Liturgy and Sacramental Ministry

It was decided that the Sunday morning Mass schedule would remain the same in our three parishes. However, effective the weekend of Sept 17-18, 2005, St. Brigid would no longer have its Saturday evening Mass and begin having a Sunday evening Mass at 5:30pm.

2. Vocations and Priest Shortage

Bishop Carlson brings with him to Saginaw a national reputation for vocation ministry. All of the proposals in this section can be addressed by the Bishop's very comprehensive approach to vocations. Currently, the diocese is creating a manual for parish vocations committees. We deem it best to wait for this manual and to seek to integrate our efforts as much as possible with the diocesan initiative.

3. Shared Resources

It is clear that parishioners would like to maintain the existing parish structures. In response to strong parishioner support for consolidating the administrative organizations of the three parishes, we will charge the three parish administration commissions to work together to look for the best ways to collaborate most effectively.

We will convene representatives of the three Christian service commissions and representatives of people who deal with emergency requests in the parishes to look for ways to further coordinate our Outreach ministries.

We will establish tri-parish social activities task force whose charge will be to plan at least one tri-parish social event each year.

Finally, we will create a tri-parish communications task force to examine the effectiveness of our internal and external communications efforts. Internal communications concerns communications among the parishes and within the parishes. External communications cover issues such as evangelization to non-Catholics and welcome to inactive Catholics.