

Final Decisions for Eastern Pastoral Region

CLUSTER # 1 – the parishes of Sacred Heart, Harleigh; St. Mary, Lattimer Mines; St. Nazarius, Pardeesville; Our Lady of Grace, Hazleton; Our Lady of Immaculate Conception, Freeland:

- Sacred Heart, Harleigh, St. Mary, Lattimer Mines, St. Nazarius, Pardeesville, and Our Lady of Grace, Hazleton will consolidate no later than July 2010 at the Our Lady of Grace site. Saint Nazarius, Sacred Heart, and St. Mary Church buildings will close no later than July 2010. The administration of the Shrine of the Sacred Heart will be under the jurisdiction of the pastor of Our Lady of Grace no later than July 2009.
- The creation of a Partnership between Immaculate Conception, Freeland and the newly formed parish in Hazleton.

CLUSTER # 2 – the parishes of Holy Trinity (Slovak), Hazleton; St. Joseph, Hazleton; St. Stanislaus, Hazleton; Most Precious Blood, Hazleton; Holy Rosary, Hazleton; St. Gabriel, Hazleton; Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Hazleton:

- Holy Trinity (Slovak), Hazleton, and St. Joseph, Hazleton, will consolidate no later than July 2010 at the St. Joseph site. At that time St. Stanislaus, Hazleton will link with the new parish. The Mission Church of St. Ladislaus and Holy Trinity Church building will close no later than July 2010.
- St. Gabriel, Hazleton and Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Hazleton will consolidate no later than July 2010 at the St. Gabriel site. Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church building will close no later than July 2010.
- The creation of Partnership between the newly-consolidated parish at St. Joseph and Most Precious Blood, Hazleton no later than July 2009.
- The creation of a Partnership between the newly-consolidated parish at St. Gabriel and Holy Rosary, Hazleton no later than July 2009. This Partnership will be reviewed with possibility of consolidation no later than July 2011.

CLUSTER # 3 – the parishes of SS. Peter and Paul, Hazleton; Transfiguration, West Hazleton; St. Francis of Assisi, West Hazleton:

- SS. Peter and Paul, Hazleton, Transfiguration, West Hazleton, and St. Francis of Assisi, West Hazleton will consolidate no later than July 2010 at the Transfiguration site. St. Francis of Assisi and SS. Peter and Paul Church buildings will close no later than July 2010.

CLUSTER # 4 – the parishes of St. John Bosco, Conyngham; Good Shepherd, Drums; Sacred Heart, Weston:

- The link between St. John Bosco, Conyngham and Good Shepherd, Drums will continue.

- The creation of a Partnership between St. John Bosco, Conyngham, Good Shepherd, Drums, and Sacred Heart, Weston no later than July 2009.
- Sacred Heart, Weston and St. John Bosco, Conyngham and Good Shepherd, Drums, will link no later than July 2012. The Mission Church of St. Joseph, Nuremberg will close no later than July 2010.

CLUSTER # 5 – the parishes of St. Ann, Shohola; St. John Neumann, Lord’s Valley; St. Joseph, Matamoras; St. Patrick, Milford; St. Vincent de Paul, Milford (Dingmans Ferry):

- The creation of a Partnership among St. Ann, Shohola, St. John Neumann, Lord’s Valley, St. Joseph, Matamoras, St. Patrick, Milford, and St. Vincent de Paul, Milford (Dingmans Ferry) as described in the preliminary recommendations. There will be a review for a possible linking among St. Ann, Shohola, St. John Neumann, Lord’s Valley and St. Vincent de Paul, Milford (Dingmans Ferry) no later than July 2012.

CLUSTER # 6 – the parishes of St. Bernadette, Canadensis; St. Mary of the Mount, Mt. Pocono; St. Ann, Tobyhanna:

- The creation of a Partnership among St. Bernadette, Canadensis, St. Mary of the Mount, Mt. Pocono, and St. Ann, Tobyhanna no later than July 2009.
- St. Bernadette, Canadensis, St. Mary of the Mount, Mt. Pocono, and St. Ann, Tobyhanna will link no later than July 2010.

CLUSTER # 7 – the parishes of Our Lady of Victory, Tannersville; St. Luke, Stroudsburg; St. Matthew, East Stroudsburg; St. John, East Stroudsburg (Bushkill); Our Lady Queen of Peace, Brodheadsville:

- The creation of a Partnership among all the parishes no later than July 2009.

CLUSTER # 8 – the parishes of Christ the King, Blakeslee; Our Lady of the Lake, Pocono Pines; St. Elizabeth, Bear Creek:

- Christ the King, Blakeslee and Our Lady of the Lake, Pocono Pines, will consolidate no later than July 2010 at the Our Lady of the Lake site. Christ the King Church building will close no later than July 2010.
- St. Elizabeth Parish and its Mission Church, St. Mark’s, Thornhurst, will retain their current status. This will be evaluated no later than July 2012.

CLUSTER # 9 – the parishes of BVM Queen of Peace, Hawley; St. Joseph, White Mills; St. Thomas More, Lake Ariel; St. Mary, Waymart; St. John, Honesdale; St. Rita, Gouldsboro:

- The creation of a Partnership among St. John's, Honesdale, BVM Queen of Peace, Hawley, and St. Thomas More, Lake Ariel, no later than July 2009.
- St. Mary, Waymart, and St. John, Honesdale, will link no later than July 2010. This will lead to a consolidation at the St. John site no later than July 2012. There will be an additional worship site at St. Mary Magdalen, Honesdale and at St. Joseph Mission, Rileyville. There will also be an additional worship site (the possibility of one weekend Mass with occasional funerals and weddings) at St. Mary, Waymart which will be reviewed after two years, based on geography, attendance, fiscal realities and the availability of priests. The Mission Church of St. Patrick, Canaan will close no later than July 2009.
- St. Joseph's, White Mills and St. John's, Honesdale will consolidate no later than July 2009 at the St. John site. St. Bernard's Mission Church, Beach Lake will remain open. St. Joseph Church building will close no later than July 2009.
- Due to the inadequacy of the following three facilities – St. Rita, Gouldsboro, St. Anthony Mission Church, Newfoundland, and St. Veronica, Lake Wallenpaupack (Mission Church of BVM Queen of Peace, Hawley) – there will be a feasibility study led by representatives of the Diocese, the Parish of Saint Rita and the Mission Churches of St. Anthony and St. Veronica, which must be completed by July 2010.