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The Catholic TIMES

Serving the Catholic Community of the Diocese of La Crosse

Pastoral Planning phase II presentations announced

By STAN GOULD
Editor

The Steering Committee for the Pastoral Planning Phase II process will meet at St. Mary's in Tomah on Oct 13, at 2:30 p.m. The committee will finalize deanery presentations that will occur between Oct. 13 and the end of November.

The Pastoral Planning process was started by Bishop Jerome E. ListECKI in 2005. The effort was designed to produce a contingency plan to be used if demographic shifts and reduced numbers of priests rendered the status quo unworkable. The process produced a contingency plan that, if completely implemented, will reduce parishes from the current 165 to 75, while still providing pastoral care and services to the faithful.

Phase II planning, that started Oct. 7, 2008, was created to answer the question: How does a diocese reduce parishes? Ben Nguyen, diocesan chancellor, said "This is the nuts and bolts of the plan. Numerous details in five main areas needed to be worked out. Subcommittees were formed to address these issues: Finance and Incorporation, Communications and Public Awareness, Staff Development and Formation, Transitions in Parish Life, and Governance and Consultation."

The deanery presentations will provide a brief review of the potential reorganization and provide an explanation of the protocols: the tools by which the Pastoral Plan can be implemented (if necessary). There will be a question and answer period, followed by an opportunity to submit written consultation. The deanery presentations will conclude with Phase III implementation ideas.

All members of the parish pastoral and finance councils, all clergy and trustees of the parish incorporation are strongly encouraged to attend. Key parish staff members are invited.

FALL DEANERY

Presentation on Phase II Protocols of the Pastoral Plan

Arcadia Deanery: Presenter Father Robert E. Schaller
Date: Tuesday, October 27, 2009
Location: Holy Family Parish, Arcadia
Time: 7:30 p.m.

Chippewa Falls Deanery: Presenter Monsignor Richard W. Gilles, V.G.
Date: Tuesday, October 27, 2009
Location: McDonell High School, Chippewa Falls
Time: 7:00 p.m.

Durand Deanery: Presenter Father Thomas F. Lindner
Date: Tuesday, October 13, 2009
Location: Sacred Heart Parish, Spring Valley
Time: 7:00 p.m.

Eau Claire Deanery: Presenter Monsignor Richard W. Gilles, V.G.
Date: Tuesday, October 20, 2009
Location: Immaculate Conception Parish, Eau Claire
Time: 7:00 p.m.

La Crosse Deanery: Presenters Ben Nguyen and Monsignor Richard W. Gilles
Date: Monday, October 19, 2009
Location: Holy Cross Diocesan Center, La Crosse
Time: 7:00 p.m.

Marshfield Deanery: Presenter Father Woodrow H. Pace
Date: Tuesday, November 17, 2009
Location: Our Lady of Peace Parish, Marshfield
Time: 4:00 p.m.

Prairie du Chien Deanery: Presenters Monsignor Richard W. Gilles, V.G. and Father Woodrow H. Pace

Date: Tuesday, October 13, 2009
Location: St. Patrick Parish, Seneca
Time: 7:30 p.m.

Richland Center Deanery: Presenter Andy Gaertner
Date: Thursday, October 15, 2009
Location: St. Mary Parish, Viroqua
Time: 7:00 p.m.

Mauston – Sparta Deanery: Presenter Father Steven J. Kachel
Date: Tuesday, November 17, 2009
Location: St. Mary Immaculate Conception Parish, Tomah
Time: 7:00 p.m.

Stevens Point Deanery: Presenter Father Thomas F. Lindner
Date: Tuesday, October 20, 2009
Location: St. Bronislava Parish, Plover
Time: 7:00 p.m.

Thorp Deanery: Presenter Father Woodrow H. Pace
Date: Tuesday, October 20, 2009
Location: St. Mary Help of Christians Parish, Greenwood
Time: 7:30 p.m.

Wausau Deanery: Presenter Father Thomas F. Lindner
Date: Thursday, November 19, 2009
Location: St. Michael Parish, Wausau
Time: 7:30 p.m.

Wisconsin Rapids Deanery: Presenter Father Woodrow H. Pace
Date: Thursday, October 29, 2009
Location: Our Lady Queen of Heaven Parish, Wisconsin Rapids
Time: 6:30 p.m.