Auburn-N. Cayuga Parishioner Meetings

April 9 and April 25, 2018

Welcome and Opening Prayer



Purpose of this meeting and Agenda

Receive parishioner input on possible Mass schedule times and locations so that the pastors and the rest of the planning team can make the best possible decisions

Agenda

Opening Prayer

Presentation

Parishioner Input

Next Steps

Closing Prayer

Why the Mass schedule will change sometime in the near future

- We will have four full-time, active priests serving our parishes rather than the current six
- Therefore, we can only schedule 12-16 Masses rather than the 20 we now have. (The current St. Alphonsus Sunday 5:00 pm Mass will become a regional Mass where the four priests rotate presiding.)
- NOTE: Current priests are willing and able to preside at 4 weekend Masses (plus weddings and funerals); future priests may not be.

Principles guiding decision making

- Enhance the participation of the faithful.
- Minimize the disruption to parishioners in their current Mass attendance patterns as much as possible given the challenge of fewer Masses.
- Pay attention to liturgical ministries, especially the existence of strong choirs or music groups. Where possible, choose vibrant music over weaker options.
- Mass times and locations will displace as few people as possible.
- Allow the largest number of parishioners to attend Mass at more convenient, popular times.

Principles guiding decision making (continued)

- Allow sufficient time for the priest to travel between sites for Masses, including in winter weather.
- Allow sufficient time for the priest to prepare for Mass and to interact with parishioners afterward.
- The Mass schedule may affect the times for Sunday morning faith formation sessions, but families will be able to participate in both Mass and religious education.
- Pay attention to the potential impact on the Offertory. Anticipate that Mass attendance may decline – at least initially. Consider how that will affect the Offertory.

The future cluster 1:

Our Lady of the Snow St. Mary's Ss. Mary and Martha

Option A

Saturday

- 4:00 pm St. Francis or St. Hyacinth—priest A
- 4:30 pm St. Patrick, Cato—priest B
- 5:30 pm St. Mary's—priest A

Sunday

- 7:00 am St. Mary's—priest A
- 9:00 am St. Francis or St. Hyacinth—priest B
- 10:00 am St. Mary's—priest A
- 10:30 am St. Joseph, Weedsport—priest B
- 12 noon St. Mary's—priest B

(plus the 5:00 pm regional Mass)

Option A – Advantages

- Keeps the 5 best attended Masses virtually as is as well as the best attended Mass at Our Lady of the Snow
- Keeps a Mass at St. Patrick in Cato (greatest distance to travel to another church)
- All parishes have at least 2 Masses to maintain viability

Option A – Disadvantages

- No Mass at St. John's in Port Byron
- One Mass at Ss. Mary and Martha is eliminated

Option B

Saturday

- 4:00 pm St. Francis or St. Hyacinth—priest A
- 4:00 pm St. Patrick, Cato—priest B
- 5:30 pm St. Mary's—priest A

Sunday

- 7:00 am St. Mary's—priest A
- 8:30 am St. Francis or St. Hyacinth—priest B
- 9:30 am St. Joseph, Weedsport—priest A
- 10:00 am St. Mary's—priest B
- 12 noon St. Mary's—priest B

(plus the 5:00 pm regional Mass)

Option B – Advantages

- Keeps the 5 best attended Masses virtually as is as well as the best attended Mass at Our Lady of the Snow
- Keeps a Mass at St. Patrick in Cato (greatest distance to travel to another church)
- All parishes have at least 2 Masses to maintain viability
- Spreads Sunday Mass times out a little more evenly
- Splits the difference between the current Sunday morning Masses at Our Lady of the Snow

Option B – Disadvantages

- No Mass at St. John's
- One Mass at Ss. Mary and Martha is eliminated
- Moves Mass at St. Joseph in Weedsport an hour earlier

The future cluster 2:

Holy Family
Sacred Heart / St. Ann
St. Alphonsus

Option 1

Saturday

- 4:00 pm St. Alphonsus—priest B
- 4:30 pm Sacred Heart—priest A
- 6:00 pm Holy Family—priest B

Sunday

- 7:30 am Sacred Heart—priest A
- 8:30 am St. Ann—priest B
- 9:00 am Holy Family—priest A
- 10:15 am St. Alphonsus—priest B
- 11:00 am Sacred Heart—priest A

(plus the 5:00 pm regional Mass)

Option 1 – Advantages

- Keeps the 6 best attended Masses virtually as is
- All parishes have at least 2 Masses to maintain viability plus the one at St. Ann

Option 1 – Disadvantages

- One Mass (the least attended) at Holy Family is eliminated
- Saturday evening Mass at Holy Family changes time by 1½ hours

Option 2

Saturday

- 4:00 pm St. Alphonsus—priest B
- 4:30 pm Sacred Heart—priest A
- 6:00 pm Holy Family—priest B

Sunday

- 7:30 am Sacred Heart—priest A
- 9:00 am Holy Family—priest B
- 9:00 am St. Ann (Memorial Day to Columbus Day only)—priest A
- 10:30 am St. Alphonsus—priest B
- 11:00 am Sacred Heart—priest A

(plus the 5:00 pm regional Mass)

Option 2 – Advantages

- Keeps the 6 best attended Masses virtually as is
- All parishes have at least 2 Masses to maintain viability plus the seasonal one at St. Ann

Option 2 – Disadvantages

- One Mass (the least attended) at Holy Family is eliminated
- Saturday evening Mass at Holy Family changes time by 1½ hours
- No Mass at St. Ann after Columbus Day and before Memorial Day

Option 3

Saturday

- 4:00 pm St. Alphonsus—priest B
- 4:30 pm Sacred Heart—priest A
- 6:00 pm Holy Family—priest B

Sunday

- 7:30 am Sacred Heart—priest A
- 9:00 am Holy Family—priest B
- 9:00 am St. Ann—priest A
- 10:30 am St. Alphonsus—priest B
- 11:00 am Sacred Heart—priest A

(plus the 5:00 pm regional Mass)

Option 3 – Advantages

- Keeps the 6 best attended Masses virtually as is (2 were moved by half an hour)
- All parishes have at least 2 Masses to maintain viability plus the one at St. Ann

Option 3 – Disadvantages

- One Mass (the least attended) at Holy Family is eliminated
- Saturday evening Mass at Holy Family changes time by 1½ hours

Questions addressed to Parishioners from the Planning Team

Questions for Cluster 1 and Cluster 2 Parishioners (Please respond orally or via the response forms.)

- What additional advantages/disadvantages do you see regarding the Mass schedule options presented by the planning team?
- What has the planning team missed or overlooked in their work to create a healthy weekend Mass schedule which serves the needs of all as best as is possible?
- Do you have specific ideas for ways to improve any of the Mass schedule options that have been presented?

Questions for Particular Cluster 1 Parishioners

- Do those who would attend Masses at Ss. Mary and Martha prefer always having the Saturday Mass at St. Hyacinth and the Sunday Mass at St. Francis OR would they prefer a rotation?
- Do those who would attend Masses at St. Patrick prefer that the Saturday Mass be at 4:00 or 4:30 pm?

Time for Parishioner Input

Responses to questions posed by the Planning Team, your questions, etc.

Next Steps

Please fill out a response form before you leave.

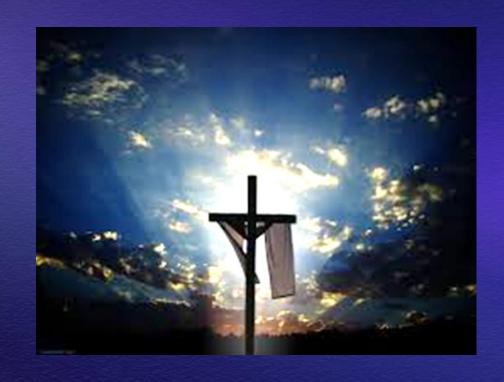
- The planning team will choose the schedule at their May 1st meeting after reviewing input from parishioners
- The schedule chosen might be one of the options presented or a modification depending on the input received
- The new schedule will go into effect when any of our priests move to senior priest status or different appointments—perhaps as early as July 2018

Prayer for Guidance

Loving God, all things work for good for those who love you.

Trusting in your divine providence, we pray for guidance and wisdom for the Auburn-Northern Cayuga Pastoral Planning Team and for the whole Catholic Community.

You know, Lord, what is good for us, what we really need, and what will build up your Church.



Help us to hear what the Holy Spirit is saying to our parishes, understand what is being said, and act according to it.

Give us humility to accept and love your will, that you can be glorified in everything we do, and the good news of Our Lord Jesus Christ may be proclaimed.

Amen.