

***Immaculate Conception Church
Diocesan Strategic Planning
Town Hall Meetings***

Immaculate Conception Church Basement
Tuesday, March 1 and Thursday, March 3, 2011 7pm - 9 pm

Parish Recommendations Worksheet

Most parishes are already, or will soon, share a priest or priests with other parishes and need to consider new ways of sharing responsibilities for parish leadership. Each parish deanery planning group will submit to the diocese a report with a set of recommendations for future inter-parish collaboration. After the deanery planning group has held town hall meetings with members of the parish, the following questions must be answered.

Parish members, please read the questions, pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance, and consider your ideas for discussion at the town hall meetings. These questions may be printed and brought to the meetings.

1. What are at least three ways in which you see your parish cooperating with neighboring parishes in the future? What ways will you celebrate/pray together with family, friends and neighbors? Where will you gather to celebrate your relationship with God?
2. Your Parish is committed to being a good neighbor through collaboration. Which two or three nearby parishes would be the most likely for your parish to work more closely with in the future? Why?
3. Given that most parishes in the future will be sharing priests with neighboring parishes, do you have any specific recommendations concerning the assignment of priests in your area? How will you celebrate Baptisms, Reconciliation, Eucharist, Anointing of the Sick, Weddings, and Funerals? What suggestions might you offer for the celebration of Christmas, Holy Week, and Easter?
4. Do you have any suggestions on how your parish, or collaboratively with other parishes, you could make Catholic schools in your community or area more accessible and affordable?
5. What opportunities would be provided for faith formation of young people, adults?
6. The parish responds to the social problems of its local area and the needs of the broader world. How will you support and care for one another? In what ways could you collaborate in service projects with other parishes and community groups around you?
7. The parish is a community of service that sustains its mission and ongoing development through a commitment to good stewardship of prayer, service and sharing. How can the material resources (i.e. Physical Plant) and finances of your parish be used in collaboration with others beyond your parish geographical boundaries? How will you be enriched by sharing human and material resources between parishes?