

Phase 2: Local Area Plan Report Form

1. Local Planning Area: 11
2. Name of Facilitator: Mike School
Phone # and e-mail address: 434-293-8081 x16, youth@stauva.org
3. Describe staffing allocation changes to accommodate the reduction or increase of active priests for your local planning area in the next 5 years. Include the names of parishes that will be clustered and the model selected.

<u>Cluster A</u>	<u>Cluster B</u>	<u>Cluster C</u>	<u>Cluster D</u>
2 Priests	2 Priests	4 Priests	1 Priest
Saint Patrick Holy Rosary Saint John Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton	Sacred Heart Cathedral Saint Peter Saint Benedict	Saint Bridget Saint Paul Saint Elizabeth Church of the Redeemer	Saint Timothy

Each cluster met independently during a series of sub-meetings to discuss the plans and recommendations for the future state of their cluster. These recommendations are based on the cluster assignments listed above and reflect the input of parish representatives and priests currently assigned to each particular parish.

Cluster A:

With the assignment of 2 priests, Cluster A recommends:

- One pastor for Saint Patrick and Saint John
- One pastor for Holy Rosary and Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton

The liturgies at each church could be divided as follows:

	Pastor A	Pastor B
Saint Patrick	Sunday: 9:00 AM	
Saint John	Saturday: 5:30 PM Sunday: 10:30 AM 12:00 PM (Spanish)	
Holy Rosary		Sunday: 8:00 AM 11:30 AM
Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton		Sunday: 9:30 AM

Other Information:

- Cluster A recommends the possibility of merging Saint John and Saint Patrick to form a new parish in Varina if land were to be purchased in this area.
- If a new parish were formed, Saint Patrick could be elevated to the status of a Shrine. And additional transition discussion to be reserved for the future with both parishes involved..

- Each parish in Cluster A currently shared a variety of staffing resources. Under the proposed plan, these parishes will continue to share staff resources. A proposal is included at the end of this report.
- The liturgy schedule of other parishes should be considered in making final determinations.

Cluster B:

With the assignment of 2 priests, Cluster B recommends:

- One pastor for Saint Peter and Sacred Heart Cathedral
- One pastor for Saint Benedict (with the flexibility to assist with sacramental needs of Saint Peter & Cathedral)

The liturgies at each church could be divided as follows:

	Pastor A	Pastor B
Saint Peter	Sunday: 8:30 AM	
Sacred Heart Cathedral	Saturday: 5:15 PM Sunday: 10:30 AM 5:15 PM	
Saint Benedict		Saturday: 5:30 PM Sunday: 8:30 AM 11:00 AM

NOTE: Daily Mass will be held at Saint Peter at 12:00 pm and Saint Benedict at 5:30 pm. There will be no daily Mass at Sacred Heart Cathedral. (A concern was voiced that the unique identity of the Cathedral should be considered before a final decision is made.)

Other Information:

- A coordinating council shall be established to facilitate the transition and sharing of resources between the three communities.
- Cathedral and Saint Peter will become a joint community.
- Saint Benedict shall retain their own Finance Council and Pastoral Council, though each council shall have a standing representative from the Cathedral/Saint Peter community.
- Sacred Heart Cathedral and Saint Peter shall merge Finance Councils and Pastoral Councils, and each council shall have a standing representative from the Saint Benedict community.
- The parish and school staff at Saint Benedict will remain intact.
- The working relationships and structure of parish staff between Sacred Heart Cathedral and Saint Peter is yet to be determined.
- Saint Benedict School will treat parishioners of Sacred Heart Cathedral and Saint Peter as Saint Benedict parishioners in terms of enrollment and tuition preference.

Cluster C:

With the assignment of 4 priests, Cluster C recommends:

- One pastor, one parochial vicar for Saint Bridget
- One pastor for Church of the Redeemer
- One pastor for Saint Paul and Saint Elizabeth

Other Information:

- Liturgy schedules are yet to be determined by each parish. Seemingly, Saint Bridget and Church of the Redeemer will maintain their existing mass schedules.
- Saint Paul and Saint Elizabeth have unique Sunday activities surround religious education and visitation of the sick. Because of these existing ministries, each parish will need to determine an appropriate mass schedule to facilitate Sunday liturgy and other important ministries. It is important that the Eucharist continue to be celebrated at least once on Sunday at St. Elizabeth.
- In an effort to begin the process of resource needs and ministry collaboration, each parish in this cluster will be meeting in the month of June with religious education and music ministry staffs to see where synergies exist.

Cluster D:

A full-time priest is essential to the vitality of this parish community. Because of its geographic distance from other parishes in the Diocese of Richmond, this parish cannot be clustered or share a priest with other parishes from this Diocese.

Because of its location, Saint Timothy has a unique demographic situation. The parish attracts an Anglo and Hispanic population, as well as people within the boundaries of the Diocese of Arlington who travel to Saint Timothy for mass. It is determined that Saint Timothy will require one English and one Spanish Sunday liturgy.

This LPA strongly recommends adding a 9th priest to this LPA to staff Saint Timothy Parish.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS AND FEEDBACK

- The original configuration of the LPA was altered moving Our Lady of Lourdes out and St. Bridget and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton into the group, causing a net increase of 5 weekend masses to the group.
- We have to be aware of the parish communities. By having a priest serve multiple parishes or “running back and forth between parishes,” this may cause a potential disconnect between a parish priest and their parish. The ministry of presence of the priest is of critical importance to the vitality of each of the parishes.
- Each cluster relationship must find ways to work with each other, which may be distinctly different from cluster to cluster depending on the needs and resources of the cluster.
- It is recommended that among the possibilities to be considered should be collaboration with the Diocese of Arlington in the border parishes.

NEXT STEPS

Following approval of this LPA plan, the next steps include:

- Solidifying mass schedules in each cluster arrangement;
- Determining the resources (i.e. staffing, facilities) that should be shared across the cluster;
- Determining resources and strengths that can be leveraged across the LPA for the benefit of all parishes;
- Devising a transition plan for each parish and cluster group to make the change as relevant and easy as possible.

Map Showing Inter-Parish Collaboration for LPA 11

