

Phase 2: Local Area Plan Report Form

To be completed by the Local Planning Area Facilitators.

E-mail completed report to the Office of Pastoral Planning: eneu@richmonddiocese.org by **May 31, 2008.**

A copy of this form can be downloaded from the Diocesan website

www.richmonddiocese.org/PlanningGuidelines.pdf

1. Local Planning Area: 17
2. Name of person completing this report: Chris Barrett
Phone # and e-mail address: 540-297-5530 (w), 434-846-5902 (h),
cbarrett@resurrectioncatholic.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 (reference a model included under "Cluster Models" page 29 or describe a model that your Local Planning Committee developed).

The Committee has agreed on a plan for a total of 12 Masses per weekend: St. Mary's 3, Newman Community at VT 3, Holy Spirit 2 (including one in Spanish, given the thriving Hispanic community), Holy Family 1, St. Jude's 2, and RU campus ministry 1.

The linchpin to the plan is a set of linkages:

St. Mary's, Blacksburg, linked with Holy Family, Pearisburg, w/ 1 priest serving,
St. Jude's, Radford, linked with Holy Spirit, Christiansburg, w/ 1 priest serving,
& VT Newman Community linked with RU campus ministry w/ 1 priest serving and
each campus ministry having a full-time lay campus minister.

The campus ministries will, of course, remain canonically linked to the local territorial parishes (VT with St. Mary's, mostly for recordkeeping functions, and RU with St. Jude's, for many shared ministries). The linkage of the two campus ministries would be mostly a matter of 'priest supply.'

Also, related to the Virginia Tech campus ministry, given the enormity of the population there, it would simply be too much work for one priest to do serve both Virginia Tech and St. Mary's.

St. Mary's, Blacksburg, and Holy Family, Pearisburg, have selected a blend of Models III and IV. They would see themselves as separate parishes with one pastor and no coordinating council. Instead, they would have separate pastoral and finance councils, whose chairs would meet. There would be quarterly or semi-annual joint meetings of the respective pastoral councils and finance councils and more frequent meetings of the individual councils.

Holy Spirit, Christiansburg, and St. Jude's, Radford, have selected an adaptation of Model III, believing that a cluster coordinator will not be necessary. There are merits to exploring hiring part-time staff for each parish, possibly a financial administrator who might serve both parishes, possibly someone to handle catechetics and sacramental preparation. They would alternate bi-monthly parish pastoral and finance council meetings with bi-monthly cluster council meetings.

This L.P.A. envisions a New River Valley region meeting once or twice per year (to include all four parishes and both campus ministries).

Some advantages to this plan that have been identified are:

- It is logical and natural based on history, geography, affinities
- No parishes/campus ministries are closed
- There will be weekend Masses in all settings
- The belief and hope that this will lead to creative & effective collaboration

4. Describe other changes that are needed to support the staffing changes proposed.

N/A

5. Describe other recommendations that will help parishes in your Local Planning Area provide better services and ministries through inter-parish collaboration.

N/A

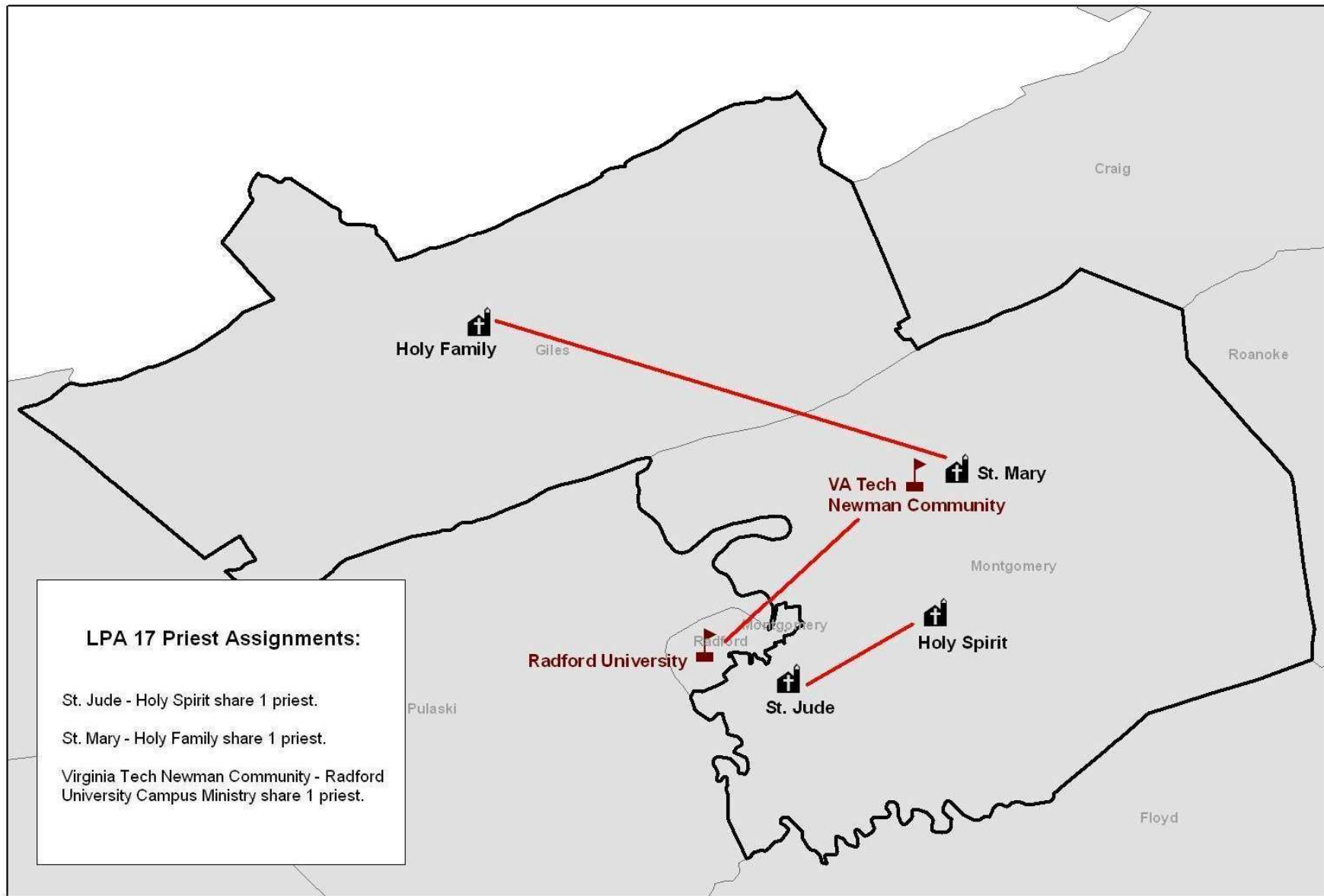
6. If your Local Planning Committee did not reach consensus on these recommendations, please describe how closer your group is to consensus and explain the minority position and/or points of disagreement.

N/A

7. Please include any other information that will assist the Diocesan Pastoral Planning Commission in evaluating your Local Plan (i.e. support by parish leadership, special challenges, etc.).

N/A

Map Showing Inter-Parish Collaboration for LPA 17



LPA 17 Priest Assignments:

St. Jude - Holy Spirit share 1 priest.

St. Mary - Holy Family share 1 priest.

Virginia Tech Newman Community - Radford University Campus Ministry share 1 priest.

0 2.5 5 10 15 20 Miles

Map created by: Office of Pastoral Planning, Catholic Diocese of Richmond, 2008

