

**Wayne County Planning Team St. Michael's, Newark  
October 16<sup>th</sup> 2018 6pm – 8 pm**

**Secretary:** Maureen OConnor

**Absent:** Father Flores, Mary DeLisio, Jim McNeil

6:00 pm Welcome and Opening Prayer Deacon Bob

6:05 pm Review and Approval of 29 August Minutes Deacon Bob  
Fr. Laird moved to approve Martha second

Shannon reviewed the plan for the evening.....that the team will finalize our notes at least for each cluster. During our break out period we will finalize our recommendations for mass schedules. When we come together and plan for our town meetings. Sub-Report for **Building Recommendations tabled:** Mary and Shannon will meet. Mary stated that all the properties that can be sold are sold or in process.

**Questions posed:** Are there staffing issues we should be considering?

**East side:** possibility of Pastoral Associate. June asked, “Is that in addition to me”? Roger said yes. You have done a wonderful job at St. Joseph – dont think Mary is paid at Blessed Sacrament. More discussion regarding pastoral associate possibilities versus volunteers. Need for engagement of people in the community and more effective volunteer process also discussed.

**West side:** Talked about stewardship person to get people engaged/get volunteers. Mary C. said thinks the east side also needs this. If possible a paid staff person in both clusters.

Mary Question: If we go into 2 clusters that have 1 pastor what are the parochial vicar's responsibilities?

Fr. Dave response: That's a given – priest will do the work that needs doing; Pastoral stuff as much as can do.

Deacon Greg Question: Can priests do all that stuff or do we need Pastoral Associate?

It was pointed out that there is a pastoral associate on the east side – in Newark, but they can't do the entire east side.

June said, We don't have a youth minister or catechetical leader. I am currently doing both these.

They are looking; could there be a shared Faith Formation person for SJ/N/BT? It was pointed out that St. Joe's is changing as well.

Shannon explained that if you see this as a need now you can do it as long as the pastors agree. She pointed out that Additional Staffing Person for Eastern Cluster needs to be included in our recommendations, as well as the Stewardship person for the Western cluster. We also need to think about our recommendations for the pastoral councils- everyone is part of the welcoming process of course,, But there is a need to follow up.

**Question posed:** Would it be more effective to have a paid person to go out to evangelize – get people to come back to church?

Fr. Jeff stated this is more theological.

Shannon stated True engagement involves the whole community. It was pointed out that we did not have any language regarding Our Lady of Guadeloupe (migrant)

**Question:** Are there ways we could as parish communities connect with them? We will fashion language around this topic in future meetings.

Bernard went on to explain the history of the migrant and Hispanic communities in Wayne County up to the purchasing of St. Gregory's church from St. Katharine Drexel parish.

Mary made a comment about Ecumenical participation coming across in both, and that it can be part of our recommendations for Pastoral Councils.

Break out sessions by east/west clusters then began during which the recommendations for mass times were discussed.

The group came together to share their recommendations. The east cluster had designed three different scenarios to share with the parishioners at the town hall meetings. The west cluster has a recommendation for mass times in part. The members of SMK wish to conduct a survey with the religious education families and the rest of the parishioners before making their mass schedule recommendation. There has been an ongoing conversation with their pastor regarding the problem of families not coming to mass after their children have attended religious education class. SKKD cluster is recommending a minor shift of the 8:15 mass at St. Anne's to 8 so that the

pastor may spend a bit more time there before going on to mass at ST. Patrick's at 10.  
The 4:30 mass at ST. Pat's would remain the same.

**Town Hall Meeting times scheduled:**

*East Side:* St Joe's November 13 7PM, St. Mary's November 15 7PM,  
St. Michael's November 27 7PM

*West Side:* St. Patrick's 3:45PM November 3, 11AM November 4, St. Anne's 9AM  
November 4.

SMK tbd

**Next meeting:** December 18 6-8PM

**Closing Prayer** “Our Father”