

ST. BERNADETTE

8200 W. Denver Ave. • Milwaukee, WI 53223

OUR LADY OF GOOD HOPE

7152 N. 41 Street • Milwaukee, WI 53209

ST. CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

8661 N. 76TH PLACE • MILWAUKEE, WI 53223



MEMBERS OF NORTHWEST MILWAUKEE CATHOLIC PARISHES

NWMCP Strategic Planning Update October 2023 Update

Our parishes had two important town hall meetings this fall. Thank you to the many parishioners from all three parishes who came to listen and ask questions.

In September, 98 parishioners, staff, and Archdiocesan representatives met to hear the recommendations that were made by the Steering Committee and its various workgroups. Slides that were presented during the meeting are available on all our parish websites.

In October, 95 parishioners, staff, and Archdiocesan representatives met to understand the financial state of our three parishes. Due to the confidential financial information contained in the presentation, a copy of these slides must be requested through your parish office. In addition to the financial update, Fr. Greg presented possible Mass schedule changes in our collaborating parishes.

Some questions from parishioners and the answers given:

1. How will the Archdiocese support our parishes (will we have another priest assigned to our collaboration)?
 - a. There are no additional priests available for an assignment within our collaboration.
2. In response to Fr. Greg's statement that our parishes will save money by changing the Mass schedule, a consideration was stated that a savings of \$40,000 by changing the Mass schedule may not equate to the same amount in savings, due to loss of parishioners who do not want to change their regular attendance time.
 - a. It is hoped that our parishioners are committed to our parishes and would be willing to adapt, to stay and support their community.
3. What is or what would a Parish Life Center look like?
 - a. A member of the special projects workgroup that developed this concept for the facility at Our Lady of Good Hope, shared a high-level example of the Parish Life Center: a place that houses community organizations and offers training and assistance, providing outreach to the neighboring community as part of our Catholic faith. This community outreach mission was identified as a part of the strategic planning process.
4. Will the Facility Plan that is being developed look only at the creation of the Parish Life Center, or will it also look at all three campuses to determine the best use of each?
 - a. The Facility Plan will look at all three campuses, including the Parish Life Center.
5. How does the Love One Another campaign affect the graphs and charts that were presented at the October town hall?
 - a. The Love One Another campaign was not included in the information presented. Those funds would be an addition to the presented financial picture.
6. In response to a suggestion that there would be benefits to merging our parishes into one parish corporation, there were concerns expressed, and some parishioners want to remain separate corporations.
 - a. The idea of merging into one parish corporation is merely a suggestion at this time. It was presented to the leadership of the parishes to discuss moving forward.