

Planning Process Summary and Time Line

Phase I – Parishes Make Initial Recommendations (February 1-March 15, 2010)

- Pastors/parish life coordinators receive planning guidelines and parish profiles.
- Information shared and discussed with parish leaders.
- Parish makes preliminary suggestions for inter-parish cooperation.
- Report due to diocese March 15, 2010.

Phase II – Regional Planning Committees Organized & Diocese Drafts Preliminary Regional Plans (March 15-April 15, 2010)

- Two lay representatives are appointed by pastor/parish life coordinator to serve on Regional Planning Committee. Names due to the diocese March 31, 2010.
- Diocesan Planning Committee drafts preliminary plan for regions.

Phase III – Preliminary Plans Reviewed by Parishes and Regional Planning Committees (April 15-October 15, 2010)

- Regional Planning Committee considers Preliminary Plans.
- Each parish holds an open meeting to discuss proposed plans. Regional Planning Committee accepts preliminary plan or recommends changes to the diocese.
- Report on planning process given to Presbyteral and Diocesan Pastoral Councils.

Phase IV – Diocesan Planning Committee Reviews Regional Plans (October 15-January 15, 2010)

- Plans submitted are reviewed by Diocesan Planning Committee.
- Should further modifications of a Regional Plan be needed, the Committee will consult with parishes affected and the Regional Planning Committee, before forwarding its recommendations to the Presbyteral Council.

Phase V – Diocesan Consultative Councils Consider Plans (January 15-March 15, 2011)

- Presbyteral Council considers proposed Plans at various meetings.
- Presbyteral Council makes recommendations to the Bishop.
- Diocesan Pastoral Council is given summary reports.

Phase VI – Bishop Acknowledges Plans (Spring 2011)

- Bishop formally accepts Plans as guidelines for future inter-parish collaboration.
- Every effort is made to insure that all parishioners are made aware of the Plans.