



Sunday, November 18, 2007 Newsletter

The clustering process continues to enjoy a good result and positive prospects.

The Cluster Planning and Coordination Committee meetings in September and October reviewed a number of documents relevant to Bishop Lennon's requests. These documents included:

1. Ten-year parish trends for number of households, school enrollment, baptisms, attendance at Mass, and similar statistics
2. Each parish's five-year financial trends, as well as a report comparing financial data between the parishes for Fiscal Year 2006/2007
3. Each parish's report of ministries, staffing, and financial data submitted to the Diocese earlier in the Vibrant Parish Life program
4. Comparisons of ministries between the parishes, including each parish's assessment of its ministries
5. Graphs of trends in number of households and school enrollment
6. Demographic information for the area
7. Cluster map

You may review all of these reports at www.svdpcleveland.org by clicking on "VPL Cluster" in the banner on the left.

Discussions among the 25 parish representatives who make up the committee have been both candid and cordial, as specific circumstances and numbers in the reports were reviewed. We are fortunate to be able to call on the wisdom, faith and experience of our committee members.

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Our discussions resulted in discernment of five priorities that will guide us in accomplishing Bishop Lennon's requests for our cluster:

1. Liturgy, including sacramental preparation and celebration
2. Education of adults and children
3. Service to the poor
4. Ministry to the elderly
5. Evangelization

Our next three meetings will be devoted to critical discussions of various scenarios under which our cluster could be organized to achieve the five values listed above. Our goal is a sound, realistic plan that meets the needs of those we serve both now and for the foreseeable future.

We can only discern and accomplish God's will with the assistance of the Holy Spirit. We depend on the intercession of our parish patrons and your continued support. Please pray for us each day in your devotions that God will grant us grace to do His work.

RV Threadgill

Communications Liaison

CPC Team