

Connected in the Spirit Future Timeline

MAY 1ST-First draft of Cohort Suggestion to your Reid Group Consultant

MAY 15th 2015-Cohort Suggestion to the Archdiocesan Planning Commission

LATE MAY 2015-Archdiocesan Planning Commission meets to make Preliminary Recommendations

JUNE- AUGUST 2015-Cohorts meet – and give their Responses to the Preliminary Recommendations by August 20 (Early draft for review to your Reid Group consultant by August 10)

EARLY SEPTEMBER 2015-Archdiocesan Planning Commission meets to make Final Recommendations to Archbishop. Final Recommendations are shared with Pastors, Administrators and PLCs.

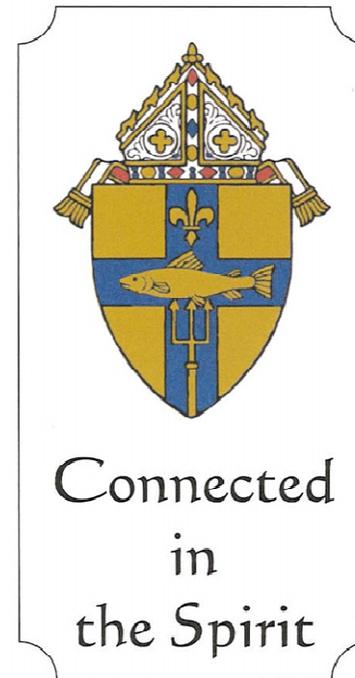
SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER-Archbishop in prayer and reflection consults with Presbyteral Council and other consultative bodies, as well as Pastors, Administrators, and PLCs whose parishes have been suggested for merger and makes decisions related to parish ministry and restructuring.

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2015-Archbishop announces his decisions

JANUARY 2016-Planning for Implementation of mergers, linking and partnering parishes begin

MAY 15, 2016-Implementation Plans due

MAY - JUNE 2016-Plans reviewed and approved by the Archdiocesan Planning Commission



Eternal God,
you are without beginning or
end, and you sustain us every
day with your Providence.

As we discern where you are
guiding the Church in central
and southern Indiana, grant us
wisdom and strength.

Through the “Connected in the
Spirit” process give us vibrant
parish communities that will
enable us to serve you with all
our hearts.

Bring comfort, healing and hope
to those who are being led
through a difficult transition,
and unite us all more fully with
you and with one another.

We ask this through Christ our
Lord. Amen.

LINKED PARISHES

Linked parishes happen when two or more parishes share a pastor. Linked parishes do as many things as possible cooperatively especially given that the pastor/administrator is striving to serve two or more separate parishes. Characteristics of linked parishes include:

- The parishes remain distinct canonical entities.
- The parishes are encouraged to work toward combining Parish Pastoral Council meetings and to establishing common committees where possible.
- According to Canon Law, linked parishes must have separate finance councils.
- Linked parishes do many things cooperatively, such as programs and in-services.
- Joint staff meetings where cooperative planning happens are marks of well functioning linked parishes.

PARTNERSHIP-PARISHES

Parishes enter into partnerships with other parishes when:

They create joint programs;

When appropriate, they share staff to enhance the quality of ministry and practice good stewardship of resources;

They share in-services or retreats for parish pastoral councils, finance councils, or parish committees.

Examples of ways parishes can partner include:

- A common catechetical program
- A shared youth ministry program or adult formation program
- Support for a common Catholic School
- A joint RCIA program
- A shared parish outreach program

The key to successful partnership-parishes is an attitude of cooperation which results in finding opportunities for sharing resources to enhance the quality of ministry in each parish. Partnership-parishes also work together, where possible, on “twinning” with inner city parishes or in support of a mission parish outside of the United States.

