

***Dell Rapids St. Mary
Task Force Update***

September 2017



DRSM Planning & Vision Task Force: Members

“If everyone is moving forward together, than success (results) takes care of itself” – Henry Ford

Task Force Make up:

<i>Connie Fitzgerald</i>	<i>Craig Libis</i>	<i>Harold Skatvold</i>
<i>JoAnn Beck</i>	<i>Cathy Boever</i>	<i>Lee Saude</i>
<i>Mike Wolles</i>	<i>Michaella Miller</i>	<i>Rod Pierson</i>
<i>Pam Hegge</i>	<i>Tom Earley</i>	<i>Patrick Mullaney</i>

Assisted by:

- Deb Kallhof & Casey Michel – School Administrators
- Erin Deitsch – Religious Education Director

DRSM Planning & Vision Task Force

Task Force Expectations:

- 1) Bring an active group of Parishioners together to talk about the future
- 2) Focus on the best interest of the entire Parish
- 3) Actively collaborate over the next ~12 month/year (not an on-going council)
- 4) Open and honest with each other, full transparency to the Parish following deliberations
- 5) Leverage the strength & diversity of this Task Force

Area's of Focus:

Parish Life

Staffing / Resources

Facilities

DRSM Planning & Vision Task Force: Getting Informed

Father & the Task Force accumulated an array of research /data to ground the Task Force and better understand the overall landscape. Including:

- US National Catholic trends 1965-2015 (50 years):
 - Total Priest down 35% (58.6k to 37.6K) religious order down ~50%
 - Religious Sisters down 73% (180k to 48.5K)
 - # of Parishes nearly flat (~17,000)
 - Parishes w/o resident priest pastor up to 3,500 from ~500 in 1965
 - Catholic Population (parish connected) up 47% at 68.1M from 46.3M in 1965
 - Foreign born Catholic = 22.8M in 2015
 - Former Catholic (native & foreign-born; raised but no long identify as catholic (survey based estimate) = ~25M in 2015
 - Catholic elementary schools = 5,300 down 50% from 10,700 in 1965
 - Students: 1965 = 4.43M to 1.4M in 2015
 - Catholic secondary schools 1,200 down 20% from 1,500 in 1965
 - Students: 1965 = 689k to 584K in 2015
 - Infant Baptisms: 1.3M in 1965 to 694K in 2015
 - Adult Baptisms: 1965 = 126k to 43K in 2015
 - Funerals: relatively flat with 1965 = 388K to 391K in 2015



While concerning, Dell Rapids St. Mary is defying many of these national trends

DRSM Planning & Vision Task Force: Getting Informed (cont.)

We also looked at more local trends:

- Dell Rapids Saint Mary activity (last fiscal year):
 - 618 Households, 1,956 people
 - 18 Baptism, 41 First Communions, 33 Confirmations, 5 RCIA, 20 funerals and 9 Marriages
 - 146 children in Religious Education
 - Annual Budget (Parish only) = 628K (incl. \$323K in school support)
 - No outstanding debts
- Minnehaha County population projected to be 207K by 2035 with annual growth of 1.34% each year (~75% will reside in Sioux Falls)
- Dell Rapids:
 - Population grew 21.9% from 2000 to 2010 (3,633) , est. 2020 of 4,106
 - Households grew 30.6% from 2000 to 2015 (1,472) est. 2020 of 1,584
- Schools:
 - DRSM School 2005 to 2015 range between 231 to 218 (2017 = 228)
 - Annual Budget ~\$1.3M
 - DR Public School 2011 to 2016 range between 930 to 980
 - DR Public Dist. 49-3 = 980 student (2016-2017 school year)
 - Annual Budget \$6.9MM expenditure (\$8.1M revenue)

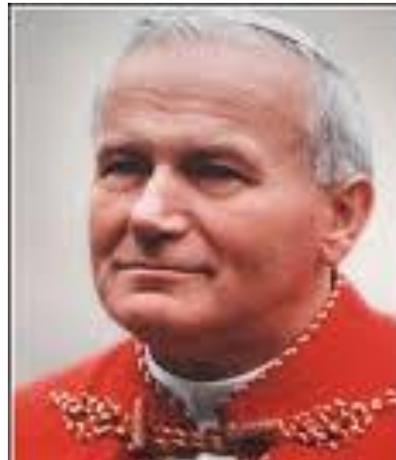


DRSM Planning & Vision Task Force: Parish Life

We began by discussing our parish life as a community. We see many strengths in our parish, and much to be grateful for. There is a great spirit of generosity and volunteerism which has been a blessing to St. Mary Parish.

Concerns are present, however, as we face the reality of decreasing Mass attendance – about 40% of registered parishioners attend regularly.

We discussed ways in which to make our parish community more welcoming to new members. Fostering the growth of faith in the Lord and growing as a faith community must be our first priority.



As the family goes, so goes the
nation and so goes the whole world
in which we live.

— Pope John Paul II —

DRSM Planning & Vision Task Force: Staffing & Resources

The task force looked at our existing parish and school staff, and the job descriptions of the work that they do.

Given the shortage of priests, the increasing expectations on pastors, and the aging of the clergy, there are concerns as to how to better enable priests to do that for which they were ordained, rather than significant amounts of time being spent in administrative tasks.

Additional staffing in the area of maintenance of facilities, and financial development were discussed. Further discussion will be needed before action is taken in this area.



It's about...
Having the right people,
with the right abilities,
in the right place,
at the right time.

DRSM Planning & Vision Task Force: Facilities

The Task Force reflected on the state of our parish facilities, including many efforts over the years to update and maintain them. Recent years have seen the renovation of the church and rectory, the building of the parish hall and office complex, and many improvements and repairs to existing buildings.

While much has been done, there are challenges yet to be faced. The “high school” building has reached a point where renovations will be needed in a variety of areas- windows, lighting, heating systems, flooring, etc.

The “elementary” building is over 110 years old and has become limited in its use, due to fire codes, deteriorating condition, and other factors.

The Task Force has recommended that we begin the process of evaluating what needs to be done, or can be done, with our existing facilities- either in terms of renovation, or replacement.

Professional engineering consultation will be needed for this process. This consultation is essential before any decisions are made.



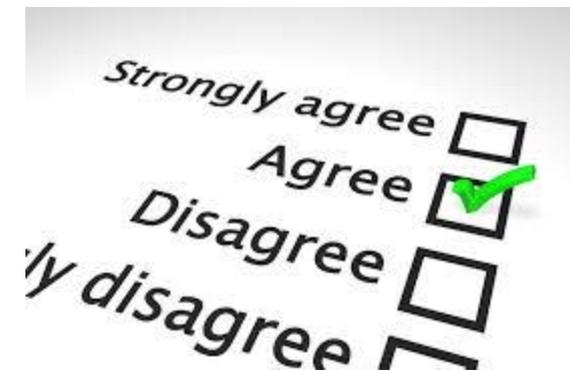
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- Appendix

DRSM Planning & Vision Task Force: Survey

- How many people are in your household?
- What is your age (20's, 30's, etc.)?
- Do you regularly attend weekend mass at St. Mary? If No, why?
- Do you regularly attend weekend mass at a church other than DRSM? If Yes where & why?
- Do your children attend school at St. Mary? If applicable, if No, why?
- Do you feel welcome at St. Mary? If No, why?
- What could we do to make St. Mary a more welcoming parish?
- How would you like to be involved as a volunteer at St. Mary? (Long list)
- Please mark all the education opportunities that our family would utilize? (long list, not all currently available)
- Please prioritize the following parish events in order of importance for your family? (nursery/day care, education opportunities, social/family gatherings, alter society)
- Please list what you think are St. Mary greatest strengths & weaknesses?
- Other comments:



DRSM Planning & Vision Task Force: Facilities (cont.)

