

PULPIT ANNOUNCEMENT – MARCH 19-20, 2011
BLESSED SACRAMENT, CHRIST THE REDEEMER, ST. MARY’S, REGIONAL
MASS

As you know, the parishes in the Elmira area have been engaged in long-term planning on a regular basis over the past decade and longer. In October 2010, the staffs, Parish Councils, and Finance Councils of the Elmira Catholic Parishes (Blessed Sacrament, Christ the Redeemer, and St. Mary’s) participated in a presentation and discussion on demographic changes in the city of Elmira and 10-year trends in the three parishes and Holy Family School. The PowerPoint presentation can be found at the Regional Council website and it will also be discussed at city-wide meetings to be scheduled and announced by March 31.

With a goal of continuing the success of parish ministries through good stewardship, the councils within each parish reviewed the opportunities and challenges facing us. The Elmira parishes then agreed to form a strategic planning committee to study these issues and develop recommendations to successfully deliver these ministries in the city. The committee members have been chosen and the committee will begin work immediately. They expect to deliver preliminary recommendations to the pastors, parish staffs, parish leadership, and the Regional Council by early June. Parishes will receive bi-weekly updates as the committee’s work progresses. Please place this effort in your prayers.