The background of the slide is a deep blue color with a subtle gradient. A faint horizon line is visible, with wispy white clouds in the upper portion of the image. The overall effect is a calm, aquatic or sky-like atmosphere.

Town Hall Meeting September 28, 2011

Elmira Strategic Planning
Ministry Subcommittee

Agenda

- Opening prayer
- Update on finances/buildings: Dave Quinn
- Ministries process; parishioner survey results and other input: Karen Jennings and Lisa Rustici
- Additional comments: Fr. John DeSocio
- Parishioner input and comments
- Closing prayer



Opening Prayer



Update on Finances/Buildings:

Dave Quinn

Who we are:

Blessed Sacrament: Arlene Siconolfi, Jim Snyder

St. Mary's: Donna Bennett, Mike Smith

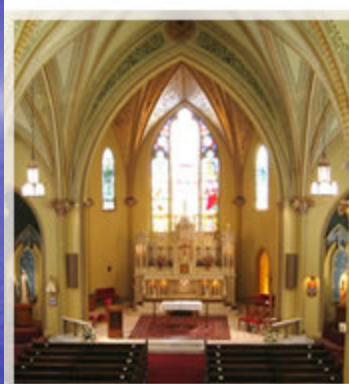
Christ the Redeemer: Lisa Rustici, Karen Jennings

Facilitator: Karen Rinefierd

Ministry



St. Charles Borromeo



St. Peter and Paul

St. Mary's Southside - Elmira



St. Patrick's



Our Lady of Lourdes



St. Casimir

Slide 6

K1

Lisa will speak about the purpose and work of the committee.

KJennings, 9/18/2011

The Survey

1148 surveys were returned from the 3 parishes.

Results were tabulated with the help of Notre Dame High School students and parish volunteers.

Our strengths:

- **Celebration of the Masses**
- **Religious education for children**
- **Catholic schools**
- **Social justice/ Catholic Charities outreach**
- **Welcoming environment in our parish communities**

Masses:

- Critically important to respondents
- Environment (churches) is very effective, but not as important as Mass itself

Religious Education for children:

- Considered important and effective
- Catholic schools considered available and effective

Social Justice/Catholic charities:

- felt to be very important and cared about
- importance and effectiveness of Catholic Charities and work around Respect for Life are highly rated
- Pastoral councils consider this area high priority to continue, especially Community Kitchen

Sacraments other than Eucharist:

- Reconciliation is not felt to be that important by all age groups, but is effectively celebrated
- Anointing of the Sick is very important; care for families who are experiencing death of a loved one needs enhancement
- Pre-Cana responses were age related

Needs work: Religious Ed for teens

- Religious education for teens is viewed as more important than youth ministry
- There is a significant gap between the importance and the effectiveness of religious education for teens/youth ministry (outside the Catholic School setting)
- Committee: while parents view as important, teens do not participate

Young Adults and Adults:

- Young adults (20's, 30's)—important 33%; effective 22%
- Adult faith formation--important 37% and effective 40%
- Need for spiritual growth was often viewed as neutral
- Gap in ministry to divorced/separated
- Reaching out to inactive Catholics is important but less effective

The Pastoral Councils recommend:

Maintain:

Outreach

Religious Ed for children, including schools

Support of Community Kitchen

Transform:

Mass schedule with more varying times

Consolidate services

Summary--Areas to improve (first two are immediate priorities):

- Ministry to elderly, homebound, the bereaved; follow up for those leaving hospitals (need for a pastoral associate)
- Catechesis of teens and youth ministry
- Ministry to young adults (those in their 20's, 30's)
- Ministry to strengthen marriage/families, including ministry to divorced/separated
- Outreach to inactive Catholics

Where do we go from here?

Likelihood of moving toward consolidated ministries and ministerial staffing across the 3 parishes

Based on what we have already learned and what we hear today, the Committee will work with pastors to explore and implement shared ministries

Parish staff and others involved in a particular area of ministry will be invited to participate in developing specifics of that shared ministry (e.g. RCIA, faith formation for children)

Additional comments

- Fr. John DeSocio

Need for your feedback

- Questions
- Ideas
- Suggestions
- Concerns



Closing Prayer