

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

CALLED TO HOLINESS AND MISSION: PASTORAL PLANNING IN THE DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Preliminary Recommendations of the Planning Commission

COUNTY: Lackawanna

REGION: North

CLUSTER # 12

PARISHES: Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Carbondale; Corpus Christi, Montdale; St. Rose of Lima, Carbondale; St. Pius X, Royal (Clifford); St. Michael, Simpson

Appreciation

We wish to thank you for the prayer, reflection and work which you have put into *Called to Holiness and Mission* to date. We appreciate the time and effort you have given to evaluating your parishes based on the Criteria established by the Planning Commission and making a Suggestion for your future.

Commendations

We commend you for:

- Your very bold consideration of consolidation of the towns of Carbondale and Simpson
- Your “perception of (the) cluster as being divided into two different and distinct areas/communities that may have similar needs yet require different responses: urban and suburban.”
- Your analysis of the benefits of the new structures

Recommendations

After reflecting on Bishop Martino’s Goals for **Called to Holiness and Mission**, your work evaluating the Criteria established by the Planning Commission, your Data Verification Forms and Parish Summary Form, we make the following recommendations.

We affirm your suggestions and recommend that as a cluster you:

- Model One: Consolidated Parish among Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Carbondale, St. Rose of Lima, Carbondale, and St. Michael, Simpson. We also recommend that the parish site be at St. Rose of Lima, pending the facility assessment results. There will be an additional worship site at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel which will be reviewed after two years
- Model One: Consolidated Parish between Corpus Christi, Montdale and St. Pius X, Royal. We also recommend that the parish site be at Corpus Christi, pending the facility assessment results, with an additional worship site at St. Pius X, which will be reviewed after two years.

We further recommend that:

1. The rich ethnic heritage of the people in your area be honored and celebrated whenever appropriate.
2. A new Mass schedule be developed that reflects good stewardship of priestly resources and maximizes opportunities for larger assemblies to provide a more robust celebration of the liturgy.
3. That you share our Preliminary Recommendations and rationale with each of your parish communities, and invite their questions and feedback on an ongoing basis now through September.
4. Upon reception of the Bishop’s directives for your cluster, please establish a Cluster Implementation Team to design ways to fulfill the directives.

Rationale

We make these recommendations based on your desire and ours to have a strong Catholic presence in your area now and in the future. Our thinking is also based on your desire and ours to have a strong Catholic Presence in your area.

REGION: North

CLUSTER # 12

1 of 1