

Catholic Community of Northern Anne Arundel County

Cluster Update November 2011

The Benefit of a Cluster is providing for continuing quality pastoral care in each of the five parishes by sharing the resources and talents available among our parish communities.

Upcoming Cluster Events

- Ralph Martin, host of “The Choices We Face”, will be conducting a two day mini-mission Sun. Nov. 20th (Called to Holiness) & Mon. 21st (Called to Mission) St. Philip Neri (SPN).
- **Cluster Thanksgiving Celebration ~ Nov. 24th, 9:00 am @ St. Philip Neri. Please bring non-perishable food donations.**
- Christmas Concert ~ Sat. Dec. 3rd & an Evening of Meditation Sun. Dec. 4th w/ Mark Forrest @ SPN
- Advent Reconciliation Service ~ Mon. Dec. 19th - 7:00 pm @ Crucifixion
- Lenten Reconciliation Service ~ Mon. Mar. 26th, 2012 - 7:00 pm @ St. Bernadette

Recent Accomplishments of the Advisory Council:

- Updated the guiding principles of the cluster. (see the back page)
- Tabulated the ministries and faith formation across the cluster (coming soon to our website)
- Supported shared celebrations-i.e. Advent Reconciliation, Lent Reconciliation, Thanksgiving Mass
- Worked to provide coordinated times for Holy Day Masses throughout the cluster

Pastoral Leadership thoughts on Faith Formation



**Holy Trinity, Crucifixion
and Good Shepherd
Pastor
Msgr. Rich Bozzelli**

Our faith is always in need of nurturing and care; and, therefore, faith formation is a life-long process. Unfortunately, it can be a challenge to engage adult Catholics in continuing their faith formation. Busy schedules, varying interests in topics, and differing approaches to learning are all part of this challenge. Collaboration among our five parishes allows us to address these challenges in a way that would not be possible if we each approached faith formation on our own. Together, we can help one another grow in our love for God and neighbor.



**St. Philip Neri
Pastor
Fr. Dale Picarella**

Faith formation, in my opinion, is helping people discover or rediscover a personal relationship with Christ. In this relationship, a meaning and purpose for one's life is encountered that is shared as good news with others.



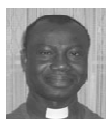
**St. Bernadette
Pastoral Life Director
Mrs. Ann Mc Donald**

Faith Formation is the unfolding of our Baptism in a life long journey of encountering Christ. Our faith formation programs have at their core our evangelizing mission of providing opportunities for all ages to grow in faith by conforming one's life to Christ. We begin this formal process from the moment of a child's Baptism when we instruct the parents and godparents to be teachers of the faith and we continue formation to the tomb.



**Holy Trinity, Crucifixion
and Good Shepherd
Associate Pastor
Fr. Jesse L. Bolger**

The Catholic faith has been compared to a great mosaic. I see Faith Formation as an attempt to dust off the individual pieces of the mosaic so that the beauty of the faith, represented in the lives of the saints, in sacred art, the mystery of the sacraments and the promise of transformation in Jesus Christ can be made visible and accessible to everyone. Our collaboration as a cluster is an expression of the universality of our faith.



**Holy Trinity, Crucifixion
and Good Shepherd
In Residence
Fr. Tony Adawu**

Our parishes have been blessed with the resources to continue creating opportunities for: 1. Prayer, including Perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Novena to the Holy Spirit, and Devotion to the Blessed Mother; 2. Building Knowledge through RCIA, Catholic scripture studies and different speaker series; 3. Works of charity, particularly toward the sick in our area. In doing all these, it is important that we do not duplicate efforts.

Guiding Principles for the Catholic Community of Northern Anne Arundel County www.ccnacc.org

The Advisory Council of the Cluster comprising the Catholic Community of Northern Anne Arundel County is charged with the development of ten (10) Guiding Principles. These principles have been designed and revised through the work of parishioners, parish staffs, Pastoral Councils, Pastoral Leaders, and the Advisory Council itself. It is our hope that through the continued pursuit of these principles, we can serve and meet the needs of the Cluster as we face the changing resources.

1. The Eucharist should be celebrated among the five parishes during the week, and every weekend, through a coordinated schedule to be distributed throughout the Cluster.
2. Opportunities for spiritual deepening and enrichment should be provided throughout the Cluster (e.g. adoration, devotions, prayer groups, study groups, and other faith expressions).
3. When appropriate and necessary, sacramental preparation and celebrations should be shared and coordinated among the five parishes through joint programming and staffing with consideration given to numbers of persons involved and space accommodations. Parishes having effective ministries and programs that work well and have adequate staffing, paid and/or volunteer, may continue them in their parish.
4. When appropriate and necessary, adult, youth, and young adult faith formation opportunities should be planned, coordinated and hosted among the parishes. Parishes having effective ministries and programs that work well and have adequate staffing, paid and/or volunteer, may continue them in their parish.
5. The Cluster should design and commit to specific actions to search out, invite, train and utilize lay leaders.
6. The Cluster should commit to planning and initiating formalized endeavors to foster Church vocations to priesthood, religious life, diaconate, and lay ecclesial ministry.
7. The Cluster should develop methods of communication within the Cluster using print and electronic media. Member parishes should give priority to cluster wide announcements.
8. The Cluster should plan opportunities for building community among the five parishes through at least one annual gathering associated with ministry and/or non-ministry functions.
9. When appropriate and necessary, the Cluster should expand or create parish ministries and programs to serve the needs of the Catholic Community of Northern Anne Arundel County.
10. The pastoral leaders assigned to the Cluster should work together to assure good pastoral and sacramental care for all five parishes.

---Approved by Parish Leaders August 1, 2011

Parish representatives for the CCNAAC Advisory Council. You may contact them to share your thoughts.

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