

**Catholic Community
Of
Northern Anne Arundel County**
website: www.ccnaac.org

Church of the Crucifixion
Church of the Good Shepherd
Holy Trinity
St. Bernadette
St. Philip Neri

Introducing the Coordinating Council

The Council in a Nutshell

Purpose of the Council – It is a resource for the Pastoral Leaders to use in finding solutions to continue serving all parishes in our cluster with good pastoral care. It acts as a source of input and review of ministries and programs that may be affected by the reduced number of available priests in our cluster. The council may be helpful in developing new ministries for the needs of all parishes. The council is an advisory body and by no means does it supersede your own Parish Pastoral Council. Each of the Parish Pastoral Councils, with their Pastoral Leader, decides what is best for their parish.

Frequency of Meetings - Meetings of the coordinating council are presently being held once a month. Each parish will host the council meetings for a six month period and then the meetings will rotate to another parish. This is done to give each member a chance to become more familiar with each of the parish facilities. Parishioners from our member parishes are welcome to attend the meetings to observe the council discussions.

Council Selection – The Pastoral Leader of each parish appoints three people to serve on the council. The council is comprised of fifteen members, three from each of the five parishes in our cluster. The term is for three years and can be renewed for an additional term. Anyone serving two consecutive terms must wait one full term before being re-appointed.

Roles within the Council – All fifteen members of the council have an equal voice and responsibility in carrying out the council's business. To facilitate organized, structured meetings, the council selects a facilitator, co-facilitator and recorder. These three positions are selected from the fifteen members at the June meeting each year. The selections are made by those council members who are present at that meeting.

Pastoral Leaders' Attendance – The Pastoral Leaders are requested to attend one meeting each quarter. They fully participate during these meetings to offer their concerns, guidance, and perspective on any topic of discussion before the council. They receive minutes from each month's meeting. Their response to any issue discussed by the council is welcomed. The Pastoral Leaders may request the council to discuss a specific topic of interest at any meeting. They have the final word on all council recommendations.

Council Members and Term Expiration

Church of the Crucifixion
Kathy Johnson (July 2010)
Dave Reedy (July 2011)
Joyce Van Blunk (July 2012)

Church of the Good Shepherd
John Nangle (July 2010)
Matt Donlan (July 2011)
Kathy Nangle (July 2012)

Holy Trinity
Nancy Silwick (July 2010)
Pat Dever (July 2011)
Rita Lowman (July 2012)

St. Bernadette
Bill Smouse (July 2010)
Joe Dulany (July 2011)
Nancy Hoover (July 2012)

St. Philip Neri
John Canterna (July 2010)
Helen Ellerman (July 2011)
Bob Fries (July 2012)

Pastoral Leaders

Rev. J. Bruce Jarboe-Pastor
Church of Crucifixion
Church of the Good Shepherd
Holy Trinity

**Rev. Michael DeAscanis
Associate Pastor**
Church of Crucifixion
Church of the Good Shepherd

**Mrs. Ann McDonald
Pastoral Life Director**
St. Bernadette

Rev. Dale Picarella-Pastor
St. Philip Neri

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Accomplishments

The coordinating council has been very busy during the past year working on the goals of the cluster. The council has met every month since June 2008, except for the July 2009 meeting. Here are some of the issues that have been discussed and/or completed during this past year.

- ✓ The first annual cluster event, which was attending a Bowie Baysox game, was held in August 2008
- ✓ Three informational inserts have been placed in the bulletins of all cluster parishes
- ✓ The council's operation has been reviewed and adjusted to meet members' expectations
- ✓ Many discussions have centered on whether there is a need for formalized training of volunteers and ways to enlighten parishioners on roles of service in ministry
- ✓ Invited archdiocesan staff member to a meeting to inform us on what training programs are available for lay ministers
- ✓ Recommended the need to have at least one weekday Mass held in each of the cluster parishes
- ✓ Worked to provide coordinated times for Holy Day Masses throughout the cluster
- ✓ Has been supportive of shared celebrations-i.e. Advent Reconciliation, Lent Reconciliation, Thanksgiving Mass
- ✓ Active in improving the content and timeliness of information on the cluster web site
- ✓ Held an evening meal with a retreat for council members and Pastoral Leaders

CLUSTER'S STRATEGIC GOALS

1. Eucharist will be celebrated in each parish every weekend and among the five parishes during the week through a coordinated schedule to be distributed throughout the cluster.
2. Opportunities for spiritual deepening and enrichment will be provided throughout the cluster.
3. When appropriate and necessary, sacramental preparation and celebrations will be shared and coordinated among the five parishes.
4. When appropriate and necessary, adult, youth and young adult faith formation opportunities will be cluster-wide and will be planned, coordinated and hosted among the five parishes.
5. The five parishes composing the Catholic Community of Northern Anne Arundel County will design and commit to specific actions to search out, invite, train and utilize lay leaders.
6. The cluster will commit to planning and initiating formalized endeavors to foster Church vocations to priesthood, religious life, diaconate, and lay ecclesial ministry.
7. The cluster will develop a broad-based network for communication including, but not limited to, a jointly published bulletin and a website.
8. The cluster will plan opportunities for building community among the five parishes through one annual "Celebration of the Catholic Community of Northern Anne Arundel County".
9. When appropriate and necessary, the cluster will expand and/or combine all parish ministries and will implement new ministries as needed in service to the cluster.
10. The Pastoral Leaders assigned to the cluster will work together to assure good pastoral and sacramental care for all five parishes. {The Coordinating Council}

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