

1/14/2024 Beacons January Update

Holy Spirit Family Parish Parishioners,

It has been a few months since our last update. Since October, we continue to grow as a Family of Parishes and we have made much progress on our Beacons of Light journey.

To refresh our memories,

Beacons of Light (BOL) is:

A pastoral planning process launched by the Archdiocese of Cincinnati in the Fall of 2020. Its purpose is to understand and determine how to best use the resources (human - people, each and all of us; physical - our buildings, meeting spaces, school, etc.; and financial) of our family of parishes.

BOL 6 Principles: We go through the BOL process by applying six principles (Eucharist, Church, Leadership, Stewardship, Love In Action, and Evangelization) to understand and determine how to best use the resources (human - people, each and all of us; physical - our buildings, meeting spaces, school, etc.; and financial) within our Family of Parishes.

BOL 5 Phases: Last August, our Family of Parishes met and reviewed the five BOL phases: (1) Establish a unified Parish Council; Build a Family Leadership Team; (2) Create a unified Vision; (3) Create a united Ecclesial Culture; (4) Collaborate on a strategic plan to achieve our Vision and nurture our Ecclesial Culture and (5) Implement action steps that align with our Vision; Enhance Culture to support unity, vitality and missionary efforts.

Holy Spirit Family of Parishes BOL Phase One Progress: In this meeting at St. Benedict the Moor, we discussed how we had begun our Family of Parishes work on these principles within our existing committees. Over the past year, we also formalized our commissions (Worship/Faith Formation, Evangelization, Stewardship/Love In Action), the Leadership Team and the Pastoral Council within our Family of Parishes. We continue to work within these commissions, on various committees and projects across our Family of Parishes.

Today, I want to update you on our Phase Two: Creating a unified Vision progress.

Recall, that BOL refers to a vision as: A rallying cry for a vital and missionary Family of Parishes. The Family Leadership Team must collaborate with lay leadership to cast this vision. The archdiocese offered workshops (Visio Days) and the support from archdiocese leaders to assist with the Family Visioning Process to foster collaboration and support from a broader group.

Content included:

- Participate in Visio Day
- Prepare for Family Visioning
- Conduct Family Visioning and Document Principle Impacts
- Vision Communication

- Leadership: Family Leadership formation
- Stewardship: Formation for Stewardship Teams/Grateful Disciples
- Evangelization: Build Evangelization teams with vision in mind
- Love In Action: Salt and Light formation at Deanery level

Holy Spirit Family Spirit of Parishes Phase Two (Vision) Progress

We have completed our Holy Spirit Family of Parishes Vision statement. This has been a truly collaborative effort. A team of parishioners across the Family of Parishes worked with myself, members of our Leadership Team, T.J. Wallace (our NE Deanery representative/Liaison) and parishioners gathered at St. Benedict in August as Family Visio Day, you responded to our requests for input.

The team used the tools content above (Visio Day participation, Family Visioning Impact Forms, etc.) and input received from parishioners prompted at the August Vision Day workshop to develop a draft vision statement that reflects the Vision of our Family of Parishes.

The statement has been presented to the Leadership Team and next must be presented to the Pastoral Council and the commissions within our Family of Parishes. When this work is completed, I will share it with all of the parishioners. For now, I want to share our Holy Spirit Family of Parishes draft vision statement as it reads:

We, members of the Holy Spirit Family of Parishes, will foster discipleship by making the Eucharist the center of our lives as we form, live, and share our faith.

The Vision is shared by all of us, and our involvement within our Family of Parishes should reflect and demonstrate our commitment to living this vision and making it real in our lives.

Additional Update on the Combined Masses for 2024

We will continue our efforts of growing together as a community, with the 2024 Combined Mass. Recall, there will be a single mass each quarter dedicated as a combined mass for the entire Family of Parishes. On those days when we schedule a combined mass, it will be the only mass for that weekend. There will be announcements within the bulletin and at masses leading up to the scheduled combined mass.

The Combined Mass 2024 schedule is as follows:

First Quarter - Easter Vigil Mass, March 30, 2024, 8:30 pm at St. Benedict the Moor

Second Quarter - Pentecost; May 5, 2024, 10:30 am at St. Augustine

Third Quarter - Family Picnic, September 8, 2024, 10:00 a.m. To be Determined (TBD)

Fourth Quarter - Sunday before Thanksgiving, November 24, 2024, 10:00 am at Corpus Christi

Thank you for your attention, please do continue to check the bulletin for future updates.

W I N T E R 2 0 2 4 | (M I D - J A N T O M I D - F E B)

Jan 18

St. Xavier High School – Cincinnati
(Cathedral Deanery - South)
7-8:30pm

You are encouraged to attend at least one of
the information sessions above.

Jan 24

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton - Milford
(St. Mary Deanery - SE)
7-8:30pm

Jan 25

Online
(General Session)
1:30-3pm

Jan 27

St. Francis of Assisi - Centerville
(General Session)
10-11:30am

Jan 29

Our Lady of Sorrows - Monroe
(St. Joseph Deanery - Central)
7-8:30pm

Jan 30

Online
(General Session)
7-8:30pm

Feb 1

Sacred Heart - McCartyville
(St. Augustine Deanery - NW)
7-8:30pm

Feb 7

Elder High School - Cincinnati
(St. James Deanery - SW)
7-8:30pm

Feb 8

St. Teresa - Springfield
(Emmanuel Deanery - NE)
7-8:30pm

