

Parish Family Input

Parish: Saint Mark (Shoreline) Date: Saturday, December 9, 2023

Notes from the Group:

Round 1: What concerns were shared about the proposed family grouping? What challenges might this pose?

- Anxious about changes to the parish culture, beautiful church, school and liturgy
- Fear of losing beautiful music and liturgy
- Liturgy and music, including Latin means a lot to each of us
- Eucharist is the center
- Unfamiliar with other parish cultures
- Saint Pius & St. Matthew - may rejuvenate Saint Mark
- Three different school districts - families coming in may have different ideas on what to expect
- We are challenged to love - Am I going to stay Christian through this? Who is sitting next to me? Can I love them?
 - o Willingness to be opened and accepting.
- We need to remember to lean on Jesus to love each other regardless of which parish we came from
- Can we love various ethnicities & various liturgies loved by ethnicities
- Priest ability to either push back or embrace various liturgies
 - o Music. Liturgical changes, permanent banners, TV screen in sanctuary.
 - o Parishioners not letting go of or embracing changes
 - o pastors needing training, transitions teams support, ongoing coaching,
 - o Old, young, converts - everyone to be represented.
- Each parish keep their favorite liturgies.
- Retain chant Latin rich old traditions Father Maurer brought to us (Triduum Masses)
- Classical school curriculum is retained
- How to communicate with Saint Pius X?
- New registration portal diocese-wide
- transportation other parishes - How to get there?
- Our carbon footprint
- Distance to church
- Seasonal aspect - daily mass and darkness
- No concerns happy with current plan
- daughters bringing in the youth
- blending different ideas
- fresh beginning
- evangelizing as Protestant groups
- positive step - include Saint Pius X & Saint Matthew
- school concerns - blending? Archdiocesan guidance for classical school

- parish family determines school configuration - cost, viability, classical education
- emphasis on classical
- Get into action with new parish family.
- Thank you for the opportunity to express our thoughts
- enough parking space
- how many people can each church?
- accommodate can energize work hard to make it work?
- can we all get along?
- we won't come together as one parish
- school concern - classical format will be lost
- difficulty combining three communities into one distance between churches
- hope for both mornings, evening masses, to accommodate night, driving issues.
- can list for parishioners to carpool and network with each other
- keep English speaking Mass along with Spanish for morning
- no concerns. Feels that everything will work out
- how are Saint Matthew feelings about this proposed group
- with all the changes would be nice to have some consistency with pastor - not move all
- have to deal with what is real; this is best grouping, not perfect, but we'll make best of it
- attendance. we will be making the same move in 10 years if problems not solved
- good solution for now but if attendance not corrected, we'll be trouble again.
- Saint Pius X with lots of large families/committed. Saint Matthews - many former Saint Mark parishioners there, more forgiveness between needed between Saint Matthew & Saint Mark
- happier with current proposal
- Saint Matthew is a wild card, different from us? Saint Pius X is culture similar to us?
- Is Saint Matthew more similar to Saint Catherine's - not as catholic as Saint Mark & Saint Pius X
- Concerned/anxious of the unknown. Need to go to the proposed parishes and see what they are like
- Saint Vincent de Paul at Saint Mark, money-wise, has helped Saint Matthew and Saint Pius X during pandemic - we can be an asset to them. They can be an asset to us as well
- increasing youth attendance
- increasing attendance in general. Currently, do registered parishioners actually go to mass? Need to contact them regularly - personal invitation to get involved in parish life
- how to merge three schools
- can't continuing maintaining old facilities, schools (need newer technology)
- even though decline expected, will have more committed group, may be able to expand. Committed to Catholic faith
- opportunities for active outreach, take advantage, let their light shine
- can't just wait in building for people to come - that means becoming less relevant because we aren't out there and people's lives

- incorporate youth programs
- youth groups that other parishes - taking them in
- pandemic closed Saint Mark activities down - Saint Pius X didn't - their community is upbeat, still doing its thing
- large adoration chapel and program at Saint Pius X
- could meld well with Saint Pius X (I'm hopeful)
- Saint Pius X not fighting Seattle rules
- Saint Pius X - adoration - inspire & teach us
- grouping parishioners of three parishes equals better attendance
- parents need to be involved in groups and teach/influence kids
- Saint Mark classical school - need to keep when we merge
- Seniors don't have to drive as far

Round 1 summing up: What themes did we hear in Round 1?

Round 2: What hopes were shared about the proposed family grouping? What opportunities or possibilities might this offer?

- Might fill the church with these changes
- We can share our saint mark's culture (latin, mass, beautiful, traditional forms of worship) with two other parish families as a way of evangelizing
- Glad will have more culturally diverse congregation
- Hope we can learn from these different cultures but unify In our basic Catholic beliefs despite different types of liturgical music, etc.
- It's good to see Asians, Africans, Latin Americans all receiving communion
- ministries will be robust
- variations from each parish that we can integrate
- resources, knowledge to help our neighbors & ministries
- culturally the north end configurations are a good fit
- learning about various cultures helps us to love each other - we learn to be aware of more resources, more people who need our help
- more robust youth group
- commute between parishes in this configuration is great.
- Hope for new life and new beginnings
- children involved/youth
- school - excitement
- well-rounded parish community all parish coming together with other churches blend different ideas, figuring out what works & what doesn't work
- hope for mercy house facility
- opportunity - less insulated, less parochial
- breaking down barriers, heal from within
- agree with above
- week-long retreat - need more retreats
- dynamic speakers brainstorm
- blending of activities that already exist
- blending strengths - stronger together
- blending finances - increase strength
- parish dynamics - have a ball - blend strengths and opportunities
- well-rounded family size

- encourage to form youth
- lack of priests/vocations, money
- more despair.
- Now more open to proposed grouping
- multiple priests for configurations
- large concern to blend
- a hope for new friends
- increase welcoming
- look forward to merging active groups
- join other church adoration
- mercy house that serves people in need
- complementary groups to grow parish
- more lay involvement
- open positions to more women throughout the church

Round 2 summing up: What themes did we hear in Round 2?

What additional input did the group provide?

- We have to be flexible, the new configuration should be an improvement with Saint Pius X joining Saint Mark and Saint Matthew
- Different masses for different cultures (Latin mass? Latin America? etc)
- Have to keep an open mind about new priests
- We will all miss Father Maurer
- We would like to hear the opinions/concerns of those from Saint Matthew and Saint Pius X on this merger.
- it all works
- schools are compatible, works well, they're close enough to share classes (eg, if a French class is held at Saint Matthews, travel by other students/teachers is easy)
- we are excited about the configuration opportunities for vibrant ministries at Saint Pius X, ethnicities, travel between buildings
- youth opportunities
- closer values than when Saint Catherine was part of the grouping
- does this work and why?
- keep these three pastors? Too much turmoil.
- one pastor and one vicar like Father comments
- three schools disposition - maintain classical?
- okay, with status quo
- Facebook advertising - good need more
- lots of discussion in future for parish
- happy about configuration.
- works best. No better configuration
- agree
- feedback questions regarding youth and education - are looking for formation for youth
- final determination with archdiocese
- Saint Mark has classical education
- lots of conversation about schools, grade school and high schools, finances

- enrollment, parish subsidy.
- great configuration for major growth
 - parishes formed about the same time and benefit from being blended
 - big improvement and configuration complement each other. Groups will positively join
 - positive feelings about three churches now
 - Saint Mark, Saint Matthew, and Saint Pius X- good
 - we will become more diverse
 - configuration is good concern
 - Concern: our unique school classical may not be well received by the other two parishes
 - adequate handicap parking, and stairs for all services
 - increase mass times to accommodate joined parish parking concerns
 - Alternative combine only two churches comma: Saint Mark & Saint Pius X
 - It works, yes, with difficulty - with regards to driving distances
 - Yes it works, but if just two parishes - Saint Mark & Saint Pius X - would be better
 - best configuration. Ability to staff it with priests
 - lots of unknowns, but I think it will work.
 - more positives than unknowns
 - Saint Pius X and Saint Mark are compatible; we can evangelize Saint Matthew
 - higher number of Catholic kids in schools is a plus

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