

Message from the Pastor

In last week's bulletin, you received a copy of the New Liturgy Schedule, which will go into effect in April. I want to share with you how I made the decision to make the changes.

- In the October Finance and Pastoral Council meetings, it was apparent that there was a need for an authentic liturgical diversity in the parish. Strong opinions and preferences were expressed regarding how people would like to see the Mass celebrated.
- Working with the Leadership Staff, there were discussions regarding our parish liturgy schedule and ways that we can change and improve it.
- To work on the new liturgical plan, we evaluated the status of our current Masses including Mass attendance and the number of Liturgical Ministers needed for each Mass.
- A new plan was formulated based on the information which had been gathered, and the plan was presented at both the Finance and Pastoral Council meetings on December 15th.
 - The Finance Council completely supported the new plan.
 - The Pastoral Council did as well, but they requested further changes. The Pastoral Council wanted to make sure that the parish maintained the Parish Choir rotating between both churches, that the Family Mass remained its own Mass, and that those who prefer a more traditional Mass in English were provided that.
- Following the Pastoral Council's request, I created a committee to consider further changes. This committee consisted of the Director of Sacred Music, the Director of Catechesis and Evangelization, the Parish Sacristan, and myself.
 - The committee decided the best solution for the parish would be for the 8 a.m. (Traditional Mass in English) and 10 a.m. (Choir Mass) to be at Prince of Peace and the 9 a.m. (Choir Mass) and 11 a.m. (Family Mass) to be at Our Lady of Lourdes.
 - This schedule allowed the greatest amount of liturgical diversity for the parish and maintained separate choir and family Masses.
- Finance and Pastoral Council members were emailed new final copies of the schedule and both councils supported the final schedule.
- Leaders of the parish ministries and groups were emailed copies of the final schedule in order to make sure they were informed of changes in the parish.
- A full staff meeting took place to inform the entire staff of the changes.
- The changes were officially released to the parish at the Parish Life Meeting on January 3rd.
- All members of the parish received a copy of the New Liturgy Schedule in the January 7th bulletin.