

## **Recommendation of the Area Pastoral Planning Committee**

The pastor and three members of each parish comprise the Area Pastoral Planning Committee. This committee has met to discuss the options for parish restructuring that were presented by the Archdiocesan Strategic Planning Committee. These models of collaboration are merger (by which two parishes are completely combined into one parish) and partnership (by which the pastoral leadership and administration of the parishes are combined, but they otherwise remain separate parishes). The members of the Committee believe that a parish partnership would be the best option for Sacred Heart Parish and Saint Charles Borromeo Parish.

In this Parish Partnership, Sacred Heart Parish and Saint Charles Borromeo Parish are connected in almost all areas of administration and in many pastoral areas the same time they remain canonically and financially independent entities. Parish Partnerships help address our immediate need to make better use of the limited number of priests we have available to serve as pastors. Parish Partnerships also allow parishes to combine efforts to do the work of the Church more efficiently and effectively.

The members of the Area Pastoral Planning Committee will consult with the Parish Finance Council and the Parish Pastoral Council of each parish about this recommendation for a parish partnership.

If you have any concerns about this recommendation, please speak with Fr. Lyons. He attends the meetings and knows what has been discussed.