

Cluster 22 Planning Committee  
Education and Social Justice Subcommittee  
February 2, 2006 meeting notes

The group verbalized a purpose and established written goals. (see attached)

Each parish outlined the social justice programs presently offered, there were some overlapping programs and some that are unique to each parish. St Bart's is a tithing parish and this is very important to them. None of us have a list of all social justice offering and contact people and we agreed that this would be a great thing to have available to parishioners of all four parishes.(see attached for listing) The social justice committees at each parish do not meet regularly, but people carry out their ministry.

We discussed the unmet needs of our catholic community and the larger community.

1. Communication was the number one area needing improvement. We agreed that a central person with the passion and skill set to get the word out on various programs and offerings would be ideal. There are many social justice and education opportunities that are offered, but not everyone knows about them. A central person could have a calendar with all events and offerings.
2. Evangelization- especially in the form of personal invitation and by getting the word out to the community at large. Welcoming people back to church.
3. Welcoming new parishioners when they register with the parish whether through personal visit from the "Welcoming committee" or a phone call, etc.

We also discussed the present parish council organization and wonder if it should be re-examined as to the purpose and structure.

Action plan: the subcommittee would like to present the cluster group with specific recommendations for staffing and catechetical programs , we will begin to discuss these at our next meetings.

We also agreed that it would be valuable to gather information and present what we have so far to a group of lay leaders from each parish, parish councils, committee heads, active volunteers, etc. As a cluster we have developed trust with each other and we need to give everyone time to be part of the process and be on board with us to help foster a positive attitude with all parishioners.

Model- We continue to feel that an appropriate "model" will become apparent as these discussions and recommendations continue.

Meeting schedule: Full cluster February 16- 7pm - St Bart's  
Subcommittee March 2 – 7pm - St Bart's