

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Informational Forum Set for Area's Catholic Communities

SCARBOROUGH On Sunday, March 26, the Catholic Communities of Cape Elizabeth, Scarborough and South Portland will host an Informational Forum at 1pm at St. Maximilian Kolbe Church on Black Point Road in Scarborough. Parish members from St. Bartholomew's, St. Maximilian Kolbe, St. John the Evangelist and Holy Cross are invited to participate in this information gathering session to provide input and feedback on the upcoming administrative changes that face the four parishes.

The Informational Forum will be hosted by the inter-parish planning committee that has been charged with developing a recommendation for Bishop Malone on how the four parishes will be administered under the new "cluster" structure that the Diocese of Maine has outlined and needs to implement by 2010. The group is seeking input and feedback as it gathers data about the current and future needs of each parish.

"We have a rare opportunity to collaborate on the combined strengths of all four parishes to better serve our growing community of faith," said Scott Ewing, chairman of the planning committee. "An administrative restructuring can help the churches provide improved services to its members and reach out to the community at large."

According to Dick Sawyer, vice chairman of the committee, "We have been meeting for several months to get a clear understanding of each parish's financial situation and a list of services provided by both the priests and the lay staff and volunteers. The findings and notes from committee meetings are posted on our website."

"This forum provides an opportunity for parishioners to tell us what their needs and concerns are as the four parishes prepare for the future," said Ewing.

For more information about the Information Forum, you can call Scott Ewing at 799-3250. Or visit the website at www.hcsj.org/cluster22.htm

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