
Why these parishes were grouped

- These proposed models build upon existing pastoral relationships, opportunities to strengthen parish connections, similarities in liturgical and ministry styles, and established patterns of collaboration.
- Geography, travel patterns, parish resources, changing demographics, financial stability, and long-term sustainability were important considerations in shaping the pastorates. The models recognize that different portions of Warren, Center Line, Clinton Township, Mount Clemens, Harrison Township, and Sterling Heights are experiencing different demographic trends and pastoral needs.
- The inclusion of St. Ephrem from Planning Area 13 honors current collaboration with St. Martin de Porres, including shared staff, faith formation efforts, and shared ministry.
- Similarly, the inclusion of St. Michael from Planning Area 13 honors its likeness and proximity to parishes in Planning Area 12.
- The models recognize the unique role of several personal parishes, including Our Lady of Grace (Vietnamese), San Francesco (Italian), and now Holy Family (Italian) from Planning Area 3 and the distinct cultural populations they serve.
- Furthermore, given their shared ministry to the Italian community, San Francesco (Italian) and Holy Family (Italian) are together under one pastorate in both models.

Why Models 12D and 12E differ

- Both models retain the same overall structure for the Clinton Township, Mount Clemens, Harrison Township, Warren, and Center Line pastorates and reflect similar priorities regarding geography, parish relationships, and sustainability.
- The primary difference concerns the Sterling Heights and eastern Warren pastorate. One model retains weekend Mass at St. Ephrem, while the other retains weekend Mass at St. Blase. Presenting both options allows for further feedback regarding the parishes' future pastoral and facility needs. Both models seek to balance long-term sustainability, parish vitality, and priest support, while acknowledging the changing religious populations throughout the planning area.

How weekend Mass locations were considered

- A proposal for a site to no longer host regular weekend Mass does not reflect a lack of faith, participation, or value in its community.
- Planning considers a number of factors, including, but not limited to building capacity and condition, demographic shifts, population trends, proximity to other parishes, sacramental activity, travel patterns, and the number of Masses priests can celebrate in a given weekend.
- In addition to the factors listed above, financial stability and deferred maintenance also informed the proposed models.
- In these models, St. Peter is identified as a potential Hispanic Ministry Hub within the planning area, due to the increasing number of Spanish speakers in the area. Under this approach, Hispanic ministry, bilingual staff support, and Spanish-language Masses would be centered at this location. Additional sites in this pastorate may also serve as Hispanic Ministry outposts, offering Spanish-language Masses and other ministry opportunities in coordination with the hub.