

St. Bernadette & Our Lady of Good Hope

Vibrant Catholic Presence in Northwest Milwaukee

January 2022 Parish Update

Recap

In September of 2021, the parishes of St. Bernadette (StB) and Our Lady of Good Hope (OLGH), along with the Archdiocese of Milwaukee (AOM) committed to work together to develop a plan for the betterment of our Catholic community in Northwest Milwaukee. This strategic planning process kicked off in October with a joint parish meeting, followed by a letter from Fr. Greg that was mailed to all parishioners. We have heard from parishioners that frequent and timely communication is a critical component to our ultimate success. One part of our communication plan is to provide monthly updates to parish members through various tools, including bulletin inserts.

We have established three project phases for our strategic planning:

1. Initiate Project – Organize, staff, and plan the project.
2. Plan Development – Determine what we want our parishes to look like in the future.
3. Implementation – Implement the plan developed in Phase 2.

Phase 1 – Initiate Project Began in September, completed in December

- Defined the purpose and scope of the project
- Determined the project organization (details in the bulletin insert from November 14, 2021)*
 - Formed a Steering Committee consisting of staff, Council members, and parishioners
 - Formed Workgroups responsible for key areas of the project
- Produced a project charter*
- Developed a project plan*

*The above referenced documents are available for review at each parish office.

Phase 2 – Plan Development Began in December, to be completed by August

- Project Team kick-off event in January – Completed
- Interview representatives from both parishes and community leaders – IN PROGRESS
- The three workgroups (Facilities and Finance; Evangelization and Liturgy; Community Engagement and Education) determine the current situation – IN PROGRESS
- Investigate opportunities and make recommendations – **Planned for March and April**
- Develop an implementation plan to address the recommendations – **Planned for May and June**
- Document the results of the three previous items – **Planned for June and July**
- Obtain approval to proceed with implementation – **Planned for August**

Phase 3 – Implementation

This phase is tentatively planned to begin in September. The scope of the activities will be determined in Phase 2.

In summary, the planning leaders at both parishes are very pleased with our progress thus far. We will work to keep you apprised of our efforts and progress to date. Finally, we are truly inspired by the engagement of our parishioners in this process, and we look forward in great anticipation toward our future and how we will become a more vibrant Catholic community in Northwest Milwaukee.

God Bless,

OLGH/StB Planning Team