

**St Alphonsus
Bridgetown
March 26, 2018**

Communications

Better communication so every parishioner is made aware of events, opportunities.

Set up video link between churches so Mass can take place at one place & parishioners could attend at their own churches. Auxiliary ministers could provide communion.

Communication co-ordinator is already in place in our Parish.

Social media expansion. (x4)

Modern technology.

Changes in place or under review?

Keep improving communications.

E-mails, working communities now.

Faith Formation

Bible studies (x5)

Bible study groups at St. Alphonsus

Biblical presentations

Studies of all types

ALPHA (x2)

Retreats

Prayer Ministries

Interact with other faith groups

Ask those in Halifax

Open communication

Spiritual perfection

Small group faith sharing

Create community presence

Outreach - lapsed Catholics

Finances

Where we are in danger of losing our church, might we consider keeping in our Parish the regular remittance of 15% to Rome? (sic)

Nothing significant needs to change in Finance.

If help is needed maybe another group with emergency help.

Would contributions change? i.e. support may be lower as fewer parishioners attending regularly.

Not centralized but (11 parishes) regionalized finances (3 parishes) (sic)

All in one based on needs.

Masses

More Masses with a priest & larger family.

We do not have Mass offered frequently enough at Bridgetown.

I prefer Saturday PM Mass.

Liturgy of the Word at least 2x a month.

One Mass.

One Mass a week with one Priest.

Once a week - time flexible Sat. or Sun. (x2)

One, eleven, yes, 30 kms (summer & winter) 100 kms, 1 hour (sic)

Mass twice a month & flexible time. Travel to Middleton.

Once a week - 30 kms. (x2)

Once a month at least.

Once a month for each Parish community. (x2)

Maximum 1/2 hour travel one way.

Distance for parishioners depends on how often Masses held.

Should be scheduled so that the Priest can cover more than 1 church per Sunday.

Saturday/Sunday at ~ 4PM, Travel time 20 minutes.

Sunday/Saturday Masses. Time of day flexible.

Travel not more than 30 kms.

Depending on the age of the Priest (expectation to travel).

1 Mass, 11 Masses in Valley.

30 min travel time, Priest to travel 100 kms.

Priest to travel 40-50 miles.

Weekday Masses should be shared equally to every church not just at the central church.

Not all Masses in big churches, share between small churches.

Masses - 1, travel 7 -15 miles, priest 30 miles.

Physical Structures

We are getting older. 5 miles at our age.

Equal Priest at all churches, big & small churches.

Where will the "Lone" Priest be located?

Distance to need & population

Joint Christian churches.

Regular fundraising events to maintain our church re painting, structural maintenance.

Office or store front in heart of local area.

As is.

Nothing significant is necessary to accomplish our mission.

Shared resources throughout the whole diocese, easier access to various churches.

Will any churches have to close?

Bridgetown St. Alphonsus is central in geography so should remain as the combined church of the parish.

Regionalized churches within a Parish.

More costs - major exp., fewer families in future years, "Aging Congregation".

I think we need a local meeting point, i.e. present churches left for the congregation to care for and use at will

Because our Parishioners are caring & sharing, we can honour others by offering car pooling to wherever the active church may be.

Sacraments

Pool resources to needs.

Confession should be available at most churches since I can't always go to St. Joseph's Kentville.

Sacramental preparation - 1/2 hour one way.

Sacramental preparation - 100 kms.

We do not have confession offered often enough.

So that all can be confirmed - have in 1 central facility in order to accommodate all candidates

1 hr. (x2)

60 min.

Reasonable for parishioners to travel 15-20 kms for sacraments.

Rotating all Church functions & Sacraments between Churches.

Staffing and Volunteers

Hire more Priests.

Clergy support: 2 Priests + 4 Deacons.

Co-ordinate with other churches. (x3)

Open communication & welcoming environment.

Working well, communications, Priest/Deacons.

Accomplished arranging a Communication Co-ordinator in our Parish already to communicate to the central

Regionalization of Staff.

When a parishioner offers to take part or volunteer as a lector, don't dismiss it and trust Jesus that our offer is good and holy.

What's Working Well

Communications (x2)

Sacraments (x2)

Clergy support (x2)

Youth

Family Life

Collaboration