

## **PITTSFORD-MENDON CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES**

Formed: January, 1998

Membership: St. Catherine's (Mendon)  
St. Louis (Pittsford)  
Nazareth College (Pittsford)  
Transfiguration (Pittsford)

Purpose: To provide for collaborative

- planning
- information exchange
- program implementation

which will better serve the needs of our immediate faith communities as well as the entire Pittsford-Mendon population and beyond.

Mission Statement: We recognize our responsibility to extend a ministry of Christian love and service beyond our individual faith communities. While we need to retain our individual parish/college identities, we believe that many important spiritual and temporal goals can be more successfully achieved if we plan and act together. The PITTSFORD-MENDON CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES is formed to facilitate implementation of the Synod Goals, a sharing of resources and ideas, and a program of outreach to the greater Pittsford-Mendon and Rochester communities.

Organization: Four representatives (including Pastors) of each faith community will constitute a STEERING COMMITTEE which will meet at least quarterly to plan and direct collaborative efforts to the PITTSFORD-MENDON CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES. One or more task forces will be formed to implement joint projects, which will be subject to prior approval by each faith community which may wish to participate in any such project. (It is understood that due to its special mission, limited resources, and the mobility of its students, Nazareth College may not be able to fully participate in some activities).

Initial Task Forces:

- SYNOD GOALS IMPLEMENTATION
- COMMUNITY OUTREACH
- ADULT EDUCATION
- YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

## Suggested Task Force Activities

- SYNOD GOALS IMPLEMENTATION
  - Exchange information and ideas which will revitalize eucharistic services and attract more participation. [Synod Goal 1]
  - Consider a joint “Family Non-Violence Pledge” Program. [Synod Goal 11]
  - Coordinate efforts to recognize and promote women in parish life and in society in general. [Synod Goal III]
  - Share techniques for developing effective SCCs. [Synod Goal IV]
- COMMUNITY OUTREACH
  - “Team” P-MCC volunteer resources with existing community organizations.
  - Develop and implement collaborative programs to combine service advocacy and evangelization, such as
    - - - seeking more inclusion for ethnic minorities
    - - - finding ways to make alienated Catholics feel more welcome by reaching out to divorced, gay and inactive Catholics
  - Offer our ideas, volunteers and supports to school and local governments where our interests overlap, such as
    - - - youth programs
    - - - recreation programs
    - - - senior citizens
    - - - substance abuse issues

---

While we recognize that synod implementation has been called for on a broader “regional” basis, we believe there is a need for local coordination on specific projects.

- Continue and expand groups such as the employment Network, local food cupboards; work with such groups as Habitat, Benincasa.
- ADULT EDUCATION
  - Begin by exchanging information on how each faith community is seeking to achieve its goals in this area.
  - Create a Joint Adult Learning Task Force (JALTF) to explore, develop and implement joint programs to be held in all four locations.
- YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Research, study and recommend methodologies to encourage 18-35 year old young adults to be active in their faith.

THE COLLEGE AND PARISHES RECOGNIZE THAT THIS PLANNING DOCUMENT REPRESENTS ONLY A STARTING POINT. THE STEERING COMMITTEE WILL SELECT SPECIFIC PROJECTS, DEVELOP GOALS AND TIMELINES, MONITOR RESULTS AND ESTABLISH EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATIONS WITH MEMBERS OF EACH FAITH COMMUNITY AND WITH THE DIOCESE.