

May 19, 2022

Dear Parishioners:

We are now beginning the local phase of Journey of Faith planning for our defined grouping or future Family of Parishes of 8 parishes. On the Archdiocese website, we are listed as Rural Family 'K'. Whether we call this a journey or a process, we are in this together. Be sure to check out Fr. Vogel's videos on <https://cppnebraska.org/planning> and the resources on the Archdiocese website <https://journeyoffaith.org>.

I have been asked to serve as convener for our family of parishes. I convened or met for the first time with the planning team members for our family of parishes last night.

This goal of this letter is to orient us on who is working on the Family of Parishes Planning Team (FPPT) and how the FPPT will work towards preparing our implementation plan for what the life of faith will look like in our parishes over the next 10 years.

The membership of our FPPT is as follows:

- Clergy Members
 - Fr. Patrick Niels
 - Fr. Joseph Sund
 - Fr. John Norman
 - Deacon John Starman
- Parish Representatives
 - Becky (Steve) Kerkman, St. Boniface in Elgin
 - Clarissa Stuhr, St. Bonaventure in Raeville
 - Denis Bergstrom, St. Peter de Alcantara in Ewing
 - Clyde Stuhr, St. John the Baptist in Petersburg
 - Ann Kurpgeweit, St. John the Baptist in Deloit (Rural Clearwater)
 - Amy Baker, St. Francis of Assisi in Neligh
 - Walt Patras, Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Tilden
 - Deb Schlecht, St. Theresa of Avila in Clearwater

Our pastoral area covers almost 1400 square miles, which is about 9.8% of the land area of the archdiocese, and about 1200 households. In the next several years, we will transition from three priests serving the area to two priests serving the area. As we consider how to serve the needs of the people within our territory, the Archdiocese Pastoral Planning Office will give us a planning template that we will go through. As an FPPT, we will look and discuss one aspect at a time. It gives us a chance to reimagine some aspects of ministry and service.

With kindest regards and best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. John M. Norman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rev. John M. Norman, Convener (Rural Family 'K')