# REGIONALIZATION



## IN THE CITY AND EASTERN SUBURBS OF PITTSBURGH

The On Mission for The Church Alive! initiative encompasses strategic planning for parishes and the regionalization process for Catholic elementary schools. Both run along parallel but independent tracks with the goals of growing the Church and the salvation of souls.



Strategic Planning for Parishes

PARALLEL TRACKS

Regionalization of Elementary Schools



#### WHY ARE CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS IMPORTANT?

- Catholic schools form both the minds and hearts of the young people they serve.
- Academic formation prepares students to meet the demands of higher education.
- Spiritual formation encourages students to live virtuous lives and strengthens them in a daily relationship with Jesus.
- Catholic schools also support the life of faith of their students that is rooted in the domestic church of the family.
- The goal of Catholic schools is to do everything possible to set their students firmly on the path to heaven.

## WHY REGIONALIZE THE CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS IN THE CITY OF PITTSBURGH AND EASTERN SUBURBS?

- Student populations at a number of Catholic elementary schools in this region have declined significantly.
- This has strained budgets, leading to tuition increases and the closing of some schools.
- The result of regionalization will allow the schools to more effectively fulfill their mission and grow the Church.

## WHAT SCHOOLS WILL BE INVOLVED IN THE PITTSBURGH-EAST REGIONALIZATION PROCESS?

Saint Agnes, West Mifflin
Saint Bede, Point Breeze
Saint Bernadette, Monroeville
East Catholic, Forest Hills
Saint John the Baptist, Plum
Saint Joseph, Verona
Saint Maria Goretti, Bloomfield/Garfield/Friendship

Mary of Nazareth, White Oak
North American Martyrs, Monroeville
Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament,
Natrona Heights
Saint Raphael, Morningside
Saint Rosalia, Greenfield
Sacred Heart, Shadyside
Saint Therese of Lisieux, Munhall

#### THE RESULT OF REGIONALIZATION WILL BE A NEW ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

- Instead of being a ministry of a parish or a few parishes, Catholic elementary schools become a ministry of the region, supported by **ALL** of the parishes in that region, not just those that previously had elementary schools.
- While each school will have a principal, a regional administrator will oversee the operations of the schools in the region.
- Benefits include:
  - Comprehensive and uniform instructional programs
  - Strengthened Catholic identity and mission
  - Stabilized enrollment and tuition costs
  - Collaboration in fundraising, technology, athletics, etc.
  - More effective use of resources, including facilities

### 57 PARISHES ARE INCLUDED IN THE PITTSBURGH-EAST REGION FOR CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS:

One asterisk (\*) denotes a parish with a parish school. Two asterisks (\*\*) denote a parish that supports a previously merged school.

Christ the Light of the World, Duquesne Corpus Christi, McKeesport\*\* Epiphany, Uptown Good Shepherd, Braddock\*\* Holy Family, Creighton Holy Martyrs, Tarentum Holy Spirit, West Mifflin Holy Trinity, West Mifflin Immaculate Heart of Mary, Polish Hill Madonna del Castello. Swissvale\*\* North American Martyrs, Monroeville\* Our Lady of Joy, Holiday Park Our Lady of the Angels, Lawrenceville Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Natrona Heights\* Our Lady of Victory, Harwick Queen of the Rosary, Glassport\*\* Resurrection. West Mifflin Sacred Heart, Shadyside\* Saint Agnes, West Mifflin\* Saint Alphonsus, Springdale Saint Angela Merici, White Oak\*\* Saint Bartholomew. Penn Hills



Saint Bede, Point Breeze\*
Saint Benedict the Moor, Hill District
Saint Bernadette, Monroeville\*
Saint Charles Lwanga, Homewood
Saint Colman, Turtle Creek\*\*
Saint Gerard Majella, Penn Hills
Saint Irenaeus, Oakmont
Saint James, Wilkinsburg
Saint Januarius, Plum
Saint John Fisher, Churchill\*\*
Saint John the Baptist, Plum\*
Saint Joseph, Duquesne

Saint Joseph, Natrona Saint Joseph. Verona\* Saint Jude the Apostle\*\*, Wilmerding Saint Maria Goretti, Bloomfield\* Saint Mark, Port Vue\*\* Saint Mary of Mercy, Downtown Saint Maurice. Forest Hills\*\* Saint Maximilian Kolbe. Homestead Saint Michael, Elizabeth\*\* Saint Patrick. Versailles\*\* Saint Patrick-Saint Stanislaus, Strip Saint Paul Cathedral, Oakland Saint Raphael, Morningside\* Saint Regis, Oakland Saint Rita, Whitaker Saint Robert Bellarmine, E. McKeesport\*\* Saint Rosalia, Greenfield\* Saint Stephen, Hazelwood Saint Susanna, Penn Hills Saint Therese of Lisieux, Munhall\* Saint Victor, Bairdford Transfiguration, Russellton Word of God, Swissvale\*\*

## **NEXT STEPS IN THE REGIONALIZATION PROCESS**

- An advisory board of area pastors and lay people will be chosen by the pastors in the region. Their tasks include the review of:
  - Finances of schools and parishes in the region
  - Student enrollment histories and projections
  - School buildings and capital needs
  - On Mission! data of parishes in the region
- Upon completion of this review, the advisory board will formalize a plan and timeline for how regionalization will proceed.
- The goal of the advisory board is to make recommendations to Bishop Zubik for the 2018-19 school year.
- The board will provide regular updates to pastors, parishes and school parents.