

## **Current Sharing/Collaboration Among the Elmira Parishes**

*(as of September 19, 2016)*

### Shared Staff among all 3 parishes

- Pastoral Associates
- Religious Education Coordinator
- Confirmation Program and Youth Ministry Coordinator
- RCIA Coordinator
- Custodians
- Parish Secretaries [1 office]
- Finance Department [1 office]

### Regional or Shared things already being done:

1 Central Office Building with shared staffs. The Building is used for Religious Ed classes, meetings, offices and St. Bernard's Classes

Collection Counters work together at Faith Formation Bldg.

5:00 pm Sunday Regional Mass...all parishes participate within the congregation and with Mass ministers. All priests take turns saying Mass

Regional Lenten Calendar is shared containing all Lenten Services in Elmira

2 total Staff Planning Days are used to plan [as best as possible] for all churches scheduling classes, Masses, meetings, extra services and activities in all churches, schools, Catholic Charities. Regional Calendar is drawn up and shared with all staff.

1 Regional Bulletin for 3 parishes

Ministerial Staff meets most Tuesday mornings to review activities, needs, changes, etc.

Regional Staff Meeting - meets on the average of once a month with other local church staffs and Catholic Charities in our deanery

All Staff Retreat [held at Cobblestone ]

All Staff Development Day held usually in early Summer

Masses with Anointing of the Sick 2x year – we rotate church sites. All are invited

Prayer Service for those with Cancer w/ anointing of the sick – usually once a year

Prayer Service for Alzheimer's Patients w/ anointing of the sick - usually once a year

Penance Services with Confession 2x year

Easter Vigil has been done combined for 5 years this year, rotating between St. Mary's and St. Patrick's Churches [due to numbers]

RCIA Group [one group for all parishes]

Confirmation classes and the Sacrament of Confirmation – we take turns between church buildings to host the Sacrament

Holy Hours – Holy Hours for Peace, on certain feasts like Christ the King, during Advent or Lent

Adoration Chapel hosted at St. Casimir's Church but adorers are from all parishes...24 year history

Friday Night Prayer Group with the Phillipines

Thursday Bible Study – Video Based at Faith Formation Center

Pre-Cana –combined all parishes, etc.

Retrouvaille Group for Troubled Marriages – meets monthly at Faith Formation Center

Regional Parishes' Mission - 1 held each year – hosted at different church locations...includes all

Regional Lenten Series – held for 3 to 4 weeks of Lent – hosted in different parish locations...includes all

Regional Blessing of the Animals [around the Feast of St. Francis]

Regional Education Group "Friends of St. Francis" – to promote "save the environment."

Music Concert combining all musicians from all parishes [Christmas / Opening of Jubilee Year]

Regional Schola Choir – a small group which began at St. Mary's but will sing at Regional Services and has invited all parish choir members to participate at services such as the Masses with Anointing of the Sick, Cancer Prayer Service, etc.

Regional Bell Choir- again began at St. Mary's but has membership from all parishes and will play wherever they are asked

Regional Living Rosary at each parish location

Shared availability of buildings for Sports programs, Funeral Lunches, Dinners, etc.

Continued discussion of "Van Ministry" for Homebound to church services in process

Regional Social Activities:

All Staff Birthday luncheons / Thanksgiving and Christmas Luncheons

Regional Appreciation Dinner for Parishes' Volunteers

Regional "Parish Life" Group

Shared Funeral Luncheons

Bus Trips

Spring /Summer All Parishes Picnic

Harvest Fest

Breakfast with Santa

Holy Family School Halloween Party and Dances and Notre Dame Retreats

Veterans' Mass and Supper

Works of Love [Social Ministry awards]

Empty Bowls Lunch [Social Ministry fund raiser at Elmira College]

Community Vegetable Gardens at parishes to give to local people in need and Food Pantry