

## Archdiocesan Planning Process Update

There are several types of changes which are possible in parishes and schools as a result of the archdiocesan planning process decisions announced by the Archbishop this fall. **Changes will be announced at weekend Masses on October 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010.** As we move forward, all parishes and schools will be expected to increase collaboration with other parishes and/or schools as well as regularly evaluate resources and adjust accordingly.



Definition of types of changes:

- **Collaboration:** intentional sharing of personnel, programs or resources between two or more parishes or schools; some parishes and schools identified as "mission critical" will be supported by all parishes in the Archdiocese
- **Cluster:** two or more parishes that share a pastor; separate parishes retain their parish status and basic organizational structure
- **Merger:** two or more parishes or Catholic school communities combine into one; church and/or school buildings may be closed as a result of mergers

You can find out more about the archdiocesan planning process by visiting <http://planning.archspm.org/>

## The Permanent Deacon:

### A Vocation to Be an Icon of Christ the Servant

The Archdiocesan permanent deacon formation program will begin the discernment and application process this fall for admission to Aspirancy (novitiate) in fall 2011. Men married or single and at least 30 years old can begin now by:

1. applying to the prerequisite Archbishop Harry J. Flynn Catechetical Institute that begins on Monday evening, September 13 (go to the St. Paul Seminary webpage at <http://www.stthomas.edu/spssod/> for an application or call 651-962-6890), and
2. attending our "Diaconate Inquiry Course" on Tuesday evenings Oct. 26, Nov. 2, Nov. 9 and Saturday morning Nov. 20 at the St. Paul Seminary. This course will introduce men (and their wives) to the vocation, spirituality, and role of the permanent deacon in the Archdiocese and will explain the discernment, application, and formation process. Those who cannot attend this fall may attend one of the courses offered next winter or spring.

For more information on the Diaconate Inquiry Course, contact Deacon Russ Shupe at (651) 291-4428 or email: [shuper@archspm.org](mailto:shuper@archspm.org). Even if you cannot apply for diaconate formation now, you may still attend the Diaconate Inquiry Course to learn more about this unique vocation in the Church.

**Learning in Later Years** – The University of St. Thomas Center for Senior Citizens' Education is offering exciting educational programs this fall for persons aged 50+. Classes are offered in subject areas that cover a full range of a liberal arts education. Two 6-week classes of special interest this fall include: "An Introduction to the Wisdom Books of the Bible" and "Meeting Our Friends in the Middle East: Countries, Cultures, Faiths, Hopes and Dreams." Classes start mid-September. Classes are taught by University professors and other experts. Many other courses and programs are available. Get more information on the Center's Web site at [www.stthomas.edu/csce](http://www.stthomas.edu/csce) or by calling (651) 962-5188.

On Friday, September 10, St. John's Abbey, in Collegeville, MN, is hosting

### A Benedictine Day of Prayer "Why can't I pray in church?"

The day begins at 7 am with Morning Prayer in the Abbey Church and ends around 3:30 pm. The cost of the retreat is \$50, which includes meals and retreat materials.

For more information or to register, go to the Abbey Guesthouse webpage at: [www.abbeyguesthouse.org](http://www.abbeyguesthouse.org) and click on "retreats" or call the Abbey Spiritual Life Office at (320) 363-3929.

**Catholic Engaged Encounter**, a comprehensive marriage preparation program, has openings for couples preparing for marriage.

- **September 11-12, 2010 (Carondelet Center in St. Paul, MN)**
- **October 9-10, 2010 (Christ the King Retreat Center in Buffalo, MN)**

The retreat fulfills the retreat portion of the marriage preparatory requirement for marriage in the Catholic Church. Some of the topics covered are: Communication, Conflict Resolution, Intimacy, Marriage as a Sacrament, Family and Children. The cost is \$225.00 per couple and includes 4 meals and overnight lodging. The retreat begins at 8 am Saturday morning and ends around 4:30 pm on Sunday afternoon. For more information or if interested please contact Scott or Katie Waldal 715-781-5399 or email us at [ceeminnesota@gmail.com](mailto:ceeminnesota@gmail.com). Check out our website [www.ceemn.org](http://www.ceemn.org).

The Couple to Couple League will be offering a Review Class and Pre-Menopause Class for the Symptom-Thermal Method of Natural Family Planning at Epiphany Church, 1101 Hanson Blvd., N.W., Coon Rapids.

**Class date:** Saturday, September 11, at 10:00 a.m. (Review Class) and 11:00 a.m. (Pre-Menopause Class) in Room 711.

Registration/ information at <http://twincities.ccli.org> or by calling 612.721.3791.