

RECONFIGURATION UPDATE

The first phase toward reconfiguration of the Archdiocese has ended. Archbishop Sean P. O'Malley, O.F.M. Cap. extends his gratitude for all the time, effort and emotion expended in this initial phase. As you know, Archbishop Sean directed that every cluster of parishes gather with representatives from each parish to assist him in determining the best use of our resources and personnel for the future mission of the Archdiocese of Boston. Each cluster was asked to recommend to the Archbishop which parish, and also which two or more parishes, could close if he felt it was necessary. This was an invitation and opportunity for the faithful of the Archdiocese to participate actively in a very difficult task. At this time, it is important to remember these are recommendations, not final decisions. No one found the process easy, but our cluster accepted the call of the Archbishop to help our Church. The committee members deserve our respect and appreciation for the work they did. The cluster recommendations have been included as an insert to this bulletin.

The consultation process now continues. First, our recommendations are sent to the Vicar, who forwards our recommendations along with his own recommendation to the Regional Bishop. The Bishop forwards all that material and his recommendations to the Central Committee. After reviewing all that material of our cluster and others, the committee will offer a recommendation to Archbishop Sean. After hearing from the Presbyteral Council, the Archbishop will announce his decisions. The whole process should take about two months. Please continue to pray that the Holy Spirit will guide and bless us through this process and beyond.