Analysis of the Need for a New Church Structure

Holy Trinity Church Region, Glen Burnie



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Executive Summary

An analysis was performed to determine the need for a new church structure for Holy Trinity parish in Glen Burnie, as well as a new church structure for St. Bernadette parish in Severn and the long-term viability of Church of the Crucifixion and Church of the Good Shepherd parishes in Glen Burnie.

The analysis indicated that there is a definite need for a new facility in Holy Trinity parish. The church is currently operating over capacity, and the area is expected to grow over the next 10-20 years. Because Holy Trinity has a history of drawing parishioners from across the study area, a larger facility becomes even more imperative. St. Bernadette parish is expected to experience significant growth in the foreseeable future. The church is currently operating at capacity, but could accommodate some growth by adding more weekend masses. A new church structure will be needed in the future for St. Bernadette parish, but is not an immediate requirement. Both Church of the Good Shepherd and Church of the Crucifixion have good potential for long-term viability. Good Shepherd has a strong and loyal parishioner base and a chance for some growth. Although the current parishioner base for Crucifixion is small and not quite as strong as the other parishes in the study area, the parish has potential for considerable growth in the near future.

Problem Statement

Holy Trinity parish has been using the gymnasium at Arthur Slade Regional School as a weekend worship site for many years. Arthur Slade has recently suggested that they would like to renovate their gym, preferably in time for the 2004 school anniversary. This will have a big impact on Holy Trinity, as the primary church facility is not large enough to accommodate all of the currently registered parishioners. Several options have been proposed to solve this problem. First is the building of a new church facility for Holy Trinity. Second is having parishioners from Holy Trinity contribute to the renovation project at Arthur Slade with temporary accommodations built in for their liturgical needs until sufficient support is raised for a new church. The third option is to build a permanent multi-purpose facility that works as a gymnasium and converts easily to worship space.

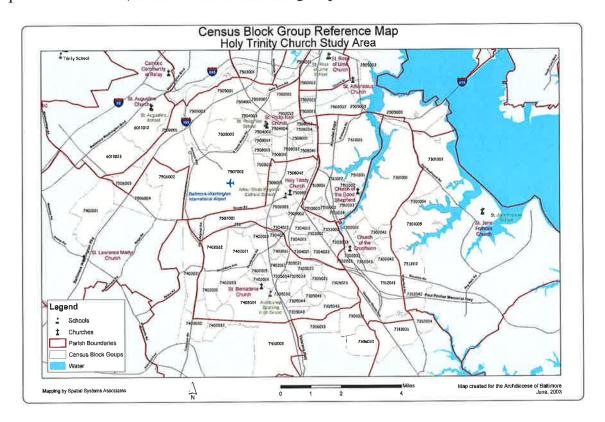
The Archdiocese has commissioned a study to analyze the immediate region to determine the best solution. In addition to the above stated problem, the Archdiocese also wished to analyze:

- How the announcement of Father Zorbach's retirement and the placement of a new pastoral leader at St. Philip Neri will impact Holy Trinity

- The need for a new church at St. Bernadette's parish to the south as well and whether this church would be built in addition to a new church at Holy Trinity, instead of a new church at Holy Trinity, or not at all
- The long term viability of the Church of the Crucifixion parish
- The long term viability of the Church of the Good Shepherd parish

Study Area

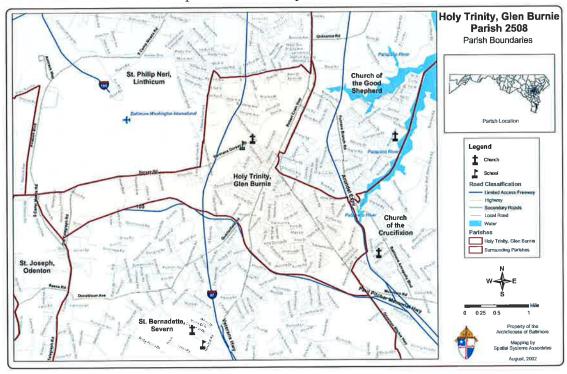
The original church for Holy Trinity parish is located on Baltimore Annapolis Boulevard, in the old business district of Glen Burnie, north of Robert Crain Highway (Route 3) and south of Dorsey Road. Arthur Slade Regional School is located on Dorsey Road, between Route 97 and Baltimore Annapolis Boulevard. The study area consists of Holy Trinity parish, St. Philip Neri parish to the northwest, Church of the Good Shepherd parish to the northeast, Church of the Crucifixion parish to the east, and St. Bernadette parish to the south, as shown on the following map:

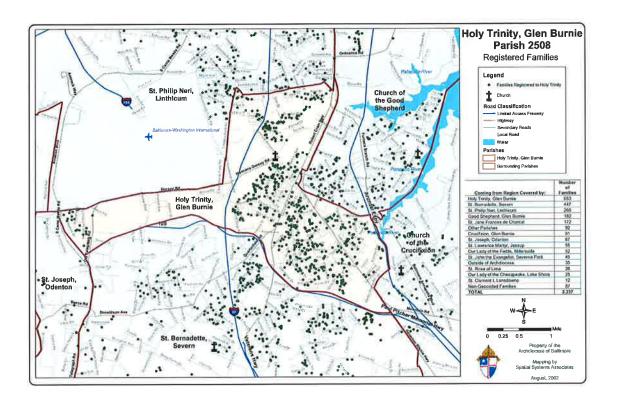


The study began with an analysis of the current parishes, the number of families registered to each based on data provided by the Archdiocese, and where those families traveled from to attend church. In addition, a review of current zoning and current residential build out was conducted.

Holy Trinity

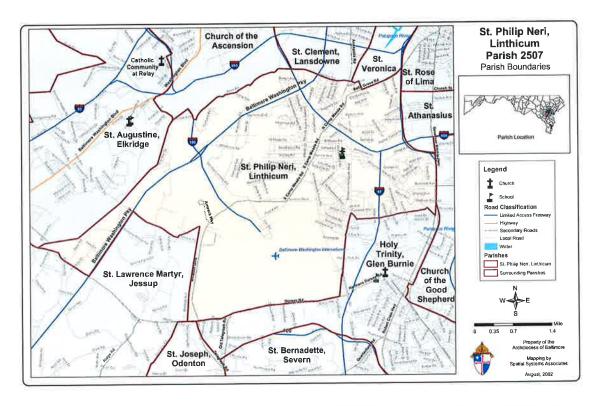
The following maps depict the boundaries of Holy Trinity parish and the locations from which currently registered families come to attend masses at either of the church locations. Note that families registered to Holy Trinity are evenly distributed throughout the five parishes that make up the study area. There are 2,337 registered families attending Holy Trinity, and only 683 live within the parish boundaries. 986 families live in the other four parishes in the study area. This could be reflective of a desire of families to attend church where their children attend school (Arthur Slade), or simply a preference for the pastor or services at Holy Trinity. Analysis of whether the families registered to Holy Trinity that live outside the boundaries of the parish have children that attend Arthur Slade would help to answer this question.

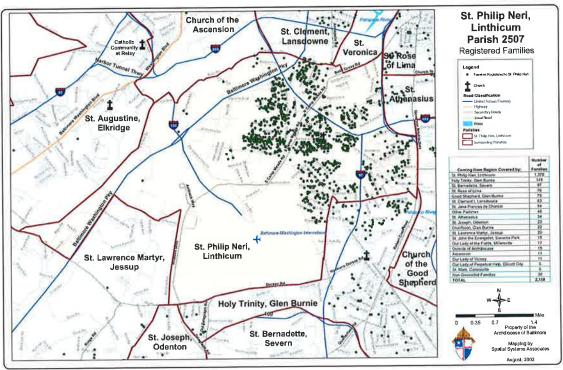




St. Philip Neri

The next two maps show the boundaries of St. Philip Neri parish and the location of families registered there. The parish includes Baltimore-Washington International Airport, so most of the people live in the northeast section of the parish. St. Philip Neri has 2,158 families registered, and most of these (64%) live within the parish boundaries.

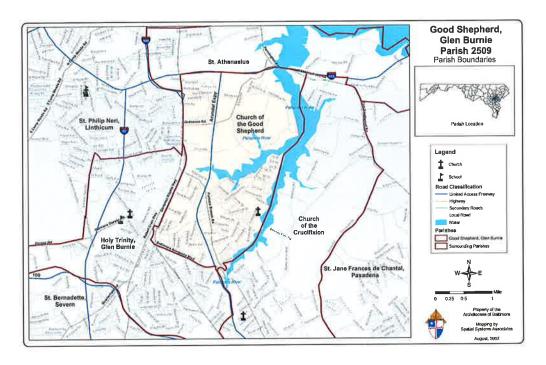


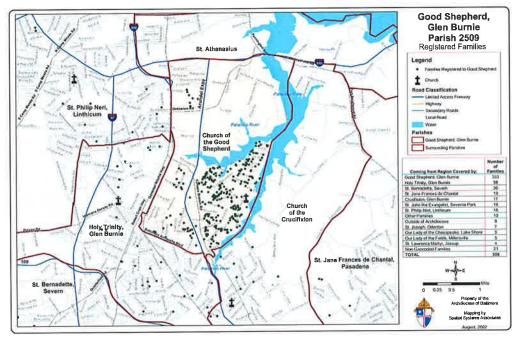


Church of the Good Shepherd

Church of the Good Shepherd parish is located to the northeast of Holy Trinity, bordered on the south by Baltimore Annapolis Boulevard, the west by Governor Ritchie Highway,

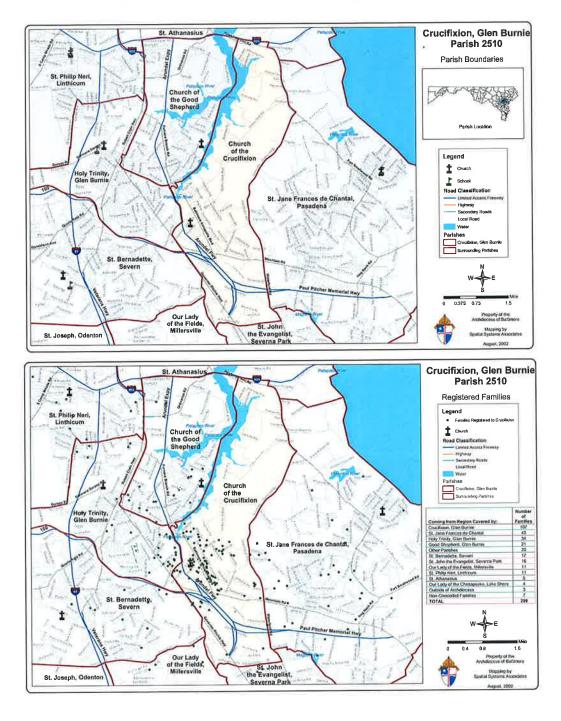
the north by the Baltimore Beltway (Route 695) and the east by Marley Creek. There are 556 families registered to Good Shepherd, the majority (353 families) live within the parish boundaries. Note the clustering of families in the peninsula formed by Marley Creek and Furnace Creek.





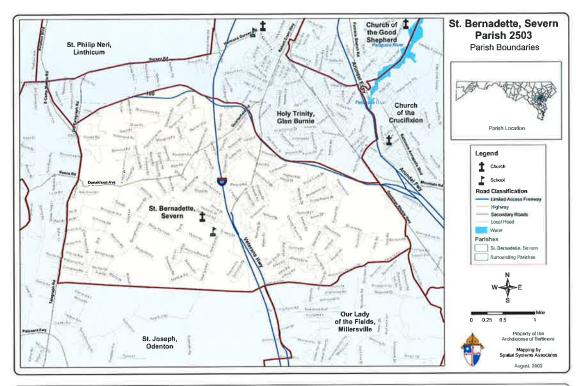
Church of the Crucifixion

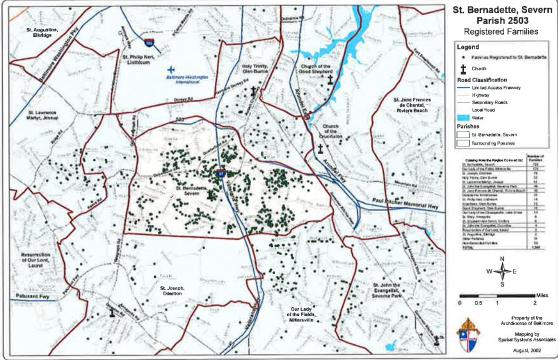
Church of the Crucifixion parish has 299 registered families, only a third of which come from within the parish boundaries. Most of the registered parishioners live clustered around the church and along Baltimore Annapolis Boulevard. As a side note, 107 families living within the parish boundaries are registered to Church of the Crucifixion, and 91 families living within the parish boundaries are registered to Holy Trinity.



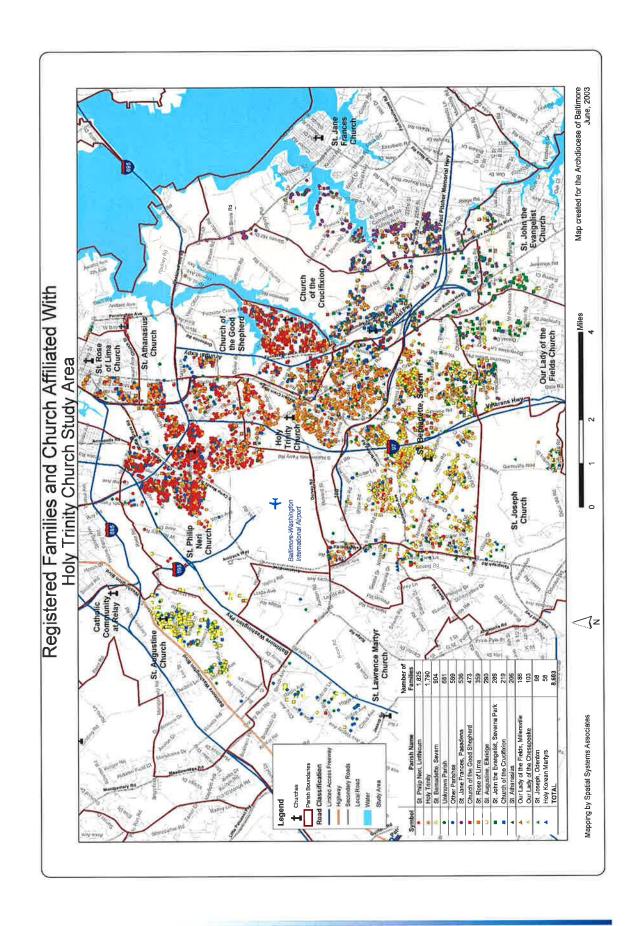
St. Bernadette

The final two maps depict the boundaries of St. Bernadette parish and the location of families registered there. There are 1,304 registered families attending St. Bernadette, most of whom live within the parish boundaries.



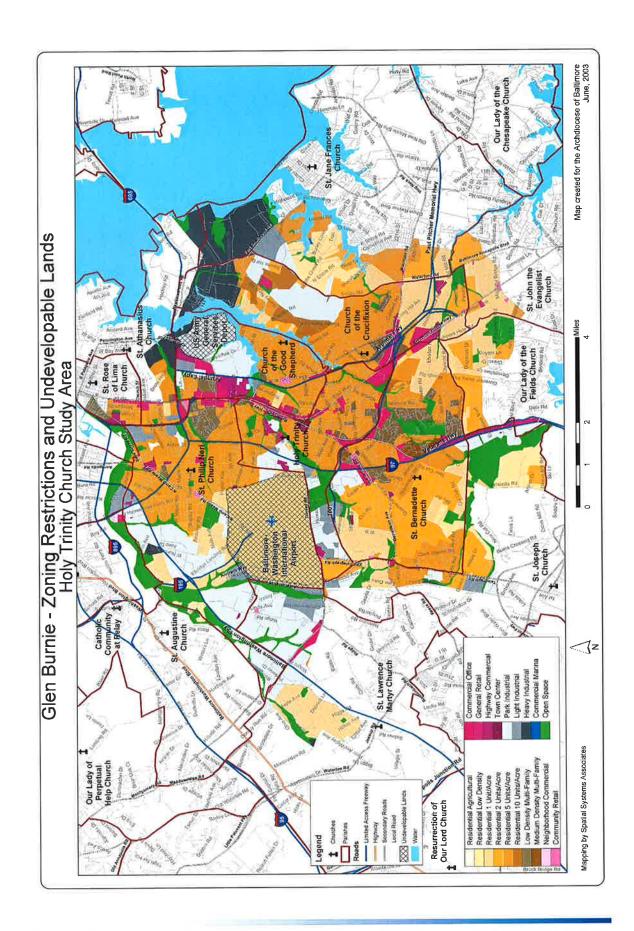


Since an important part of the analysis was to visualize registration and attendance on a regional basis, a map was developed depicting thematically (as a function of both color and symbology) the location of families registered to each parish in the study area. The map below shows the result of that process. The registration counts in the table on the map do not correspond to the numbers referenced earlier in this section; the numbers in this map count only the families living within the designated study area. There are three things to notice in this map, all of which reiterate points already made in this section. First is the proliferation of families registered to Holy Trinity that live throughout the study area. Second is the fact that most of the families registered to St. Philip Neri live within the St. Philip Neri parish boundaries. Third, a similar phenomenon is occurring in Church of the Good Shepherd parish, most pronouncedly on the peninsula between Marley Creek and Furnace Creek.



Current Zoning and Area Demographics

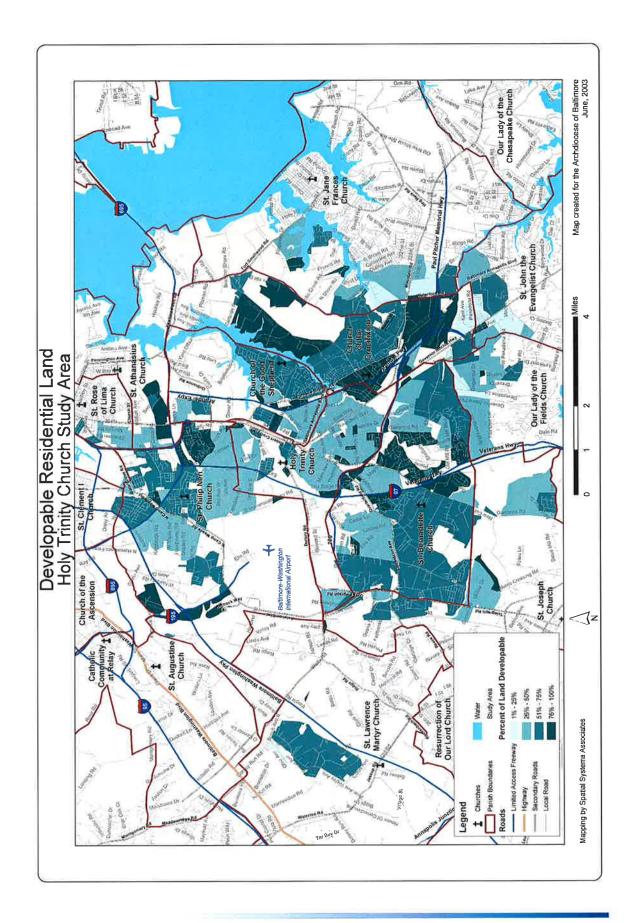
In an attempt to understand where current residential properties in the study area are located, and where additional development within the study area is likely to take place in the next ten to twenty years, an analysis of current zoning and buildout was conducted. Zoning maps were acquired from Anne Arundel County and vectorized within the study area. The following maps depict the study area and thematically represent residential, commercial, and industrial lands, all color coded by allowable density, and preserved lands.



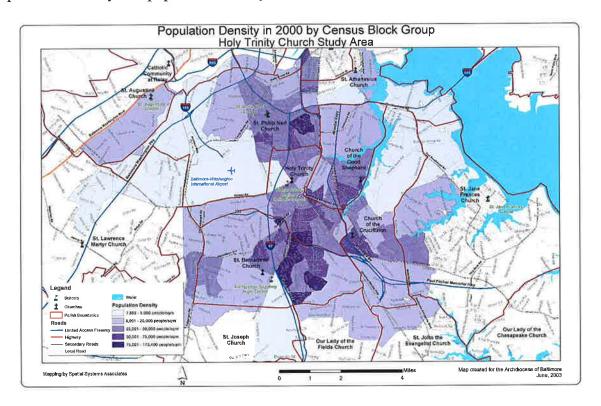
Baltimore Washington International Airport and adjacent industrial lands take up a large portion of the western part of St. Philip Neri parish. Most of the western 'panhandle' of Holy Trinity parish is industrial, except for the part to the west of Old Telegraph Road. Good Shepherd parish includes the US Army General Services Depot and a large industrial area, as well as a dense commercial sector in the area north of Furnace Creek, accounting for nearly half of the geographic extent of the parish. Likewise, most of the northern area of Crucifixion parish is designated industrial. Note the commercial corridors along Robert Crain Highway and Governor Ritchie Highway.

Residential areas are depicted on the map in shades of brown. The lightest brown color represents areas zoned Residential Agricultural, the least dense residential zoning. Other residential zones include Residential Low Density, Residential 1 Unit/Acre, Residential 2 Units/Acre, Residential 5 Units/Acre, Residential 10 Units/Acre, Low Density Multi-Family, and Medium Density Multi-Family. Note that most of the residential land in the study area is zoned 5 Units/Acre.

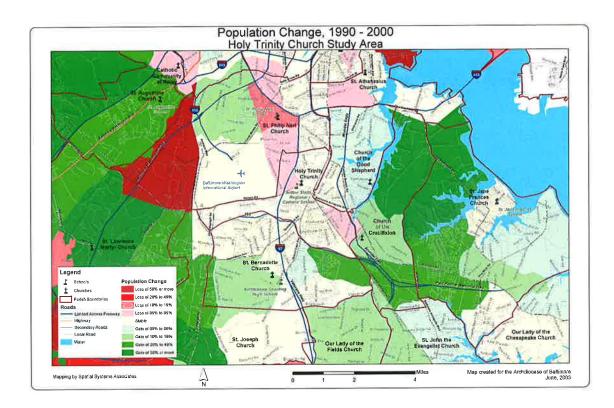
The next step in the study was to determine, based on current zoning and development, where additional residential development may take place in the future. The following map shows the results of that analysis. Developable land is depicted in varying shades of blue/gray; the darker areas are less developed as a percentage of allowable density based on current zoning. Keep in mind that this analysis only looks at current buildout in comparison to allowable density. It does not take into account established neighborhoods that may have been developed at a lower density than allowed by zoning. For example, most of the land designated 'developable' in St. Philip Neri and Holy Trinity parishes probably is not going to see any major additional development in the foreseeable future. Both Crucifixion and St. Bernadette parishes, however, could see significant growth in the next several years.



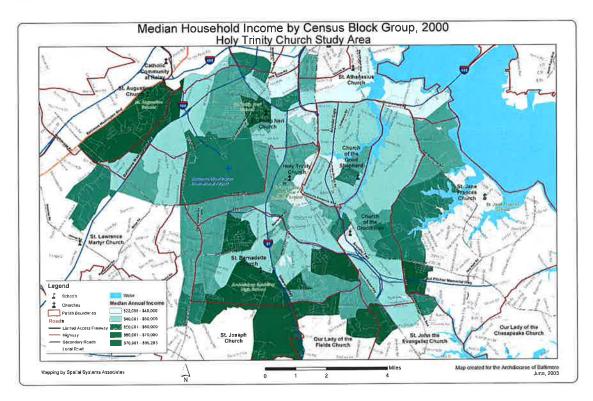
In order to address the questions posed in the problem statement earlier, the analysis included an evaluation of population and income information from the 2000 Census, acquired from the U.S. Census Bureau. The following map shows population density (the number of people per square mile) for the study area. Note the high density of population throughout the central part of the study area, especially in St. Bernadette and St. Philip Neri parishes east of Route 97. On the other hand, a large part of Crucifixion parish has a very low population density.



The following map depicts population changes between the 1990 and 2000 Census. Most of Holy Trinity parish remained relatively stable, with some slight losses in the northwest and southeast corners. Most of the northwest area is zoned industrial, however, so the losses become even less significant. St. Philip Neri parish is losing population in the eastern portion, but gaining in the north. The seemingly dramatic decrease in population in the western portion of the parish is actually in an industrial zone, so the impact on the parish is relatively small. Good Shepherd parish experienced stable to slight growth, while Crucifixion parish saw significant growth throughout the entire parish. The population remained stable in the older, more established neighborhoods of St. Bernadette parish, but the less developed areas experienced significant growth in the past ten years.



From a household income perspective, it is assumed that the general character of households in the region will stay approximately the same, and that new development and new families will follow approximately the same pattern that exists today. The following map depicts median household income from data taken from the 2000 Census.



The more affluent areas tend to be in the south of the study area, and the older neighborhoods of Glen Burnie tend to have a lower median income. The neighborhood immediately surrounding St. Philip Neri church in Linthicum is a glaring exception to that rule. The median incomes along Marley Creek are relatively low considering they are on the water, especially when compared to the median incomes along Stony Creek to the southeast in Riviera Beach. This could probably be attributed to the industrial composition of the area and the fact that the land along the east side of Marley Creek, in Crucifixion parish, is mostly undeveloped. The boundary between St. Philip Neri and St. Augustine parishes is very close to the Anne Arundel County/Howard County line, which accounts for the significant increase in median income west of the Baltimore Washington Parkway.

The "Total Parish Household Income" of each parish in the study area was then determined by:

- geocoding the location of each registered family
- determining the census block group in which that family resides
- assigning the median household income for that census block group to the respective family
- aggregating the median household income for all families registered to each parish
- calculating the average household income for all families registered to each parish

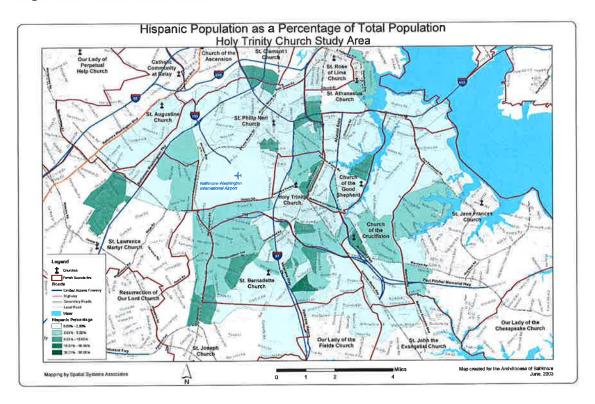
This analysis resulted in the following statistics:

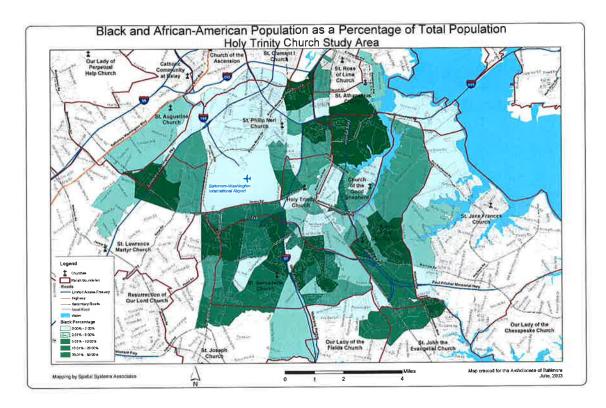
Parish	Number of Registered Families within Study Area	Aggregate Household Income	Average Household Income	
Holy Trinity	1,790	\$94,484,496	\$52,875	
St. Philip Neri	1,825	\$103,040,096	\$56,460	
Church of the Good Shepherd	473	\$25,319,468	\$53,530	
Church of the Crucifixion	219	\$11,243,461	\$51,340	
St. Bernadette	904	\$55,086,614	\$60,937	

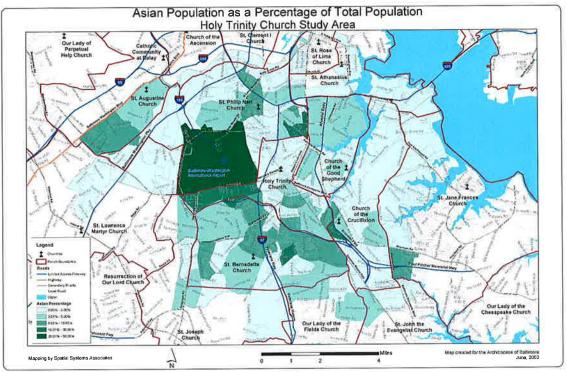
Note that the number of families in this analysis is not the same as the number of families registered to each parish. For this evaluation, only those families living within the study area were considered.

Minority Populations

In an attempt to better understand the demographics of the region, an analysis was performed to identify large percentage populations of various minority groups that may have an impact on church communities in the area. The following three maps show Hispanic, Black and African-American, and Asian populations as a percentage of total population. The same percentage classifications are used for all three maps, so comparisons can be made between them.







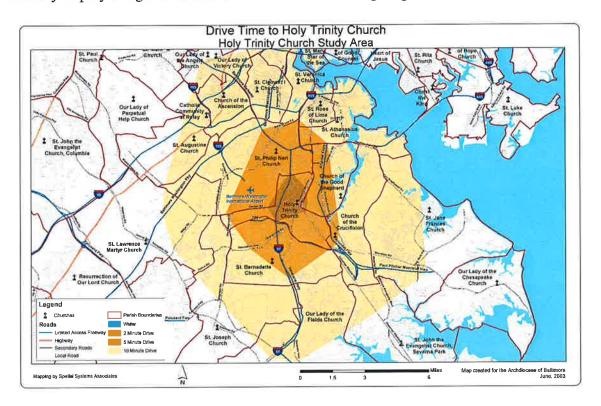
There are not many areas of dense Hispanic populations. Overall for the study area Hispanics make up 2.49% of the total population. Both St. Bernadette and Crucifixion parishes have areas with relatively large African-American populations throughout most of the parish. Blacks and African-Americans constitute 12.78% of the total population of

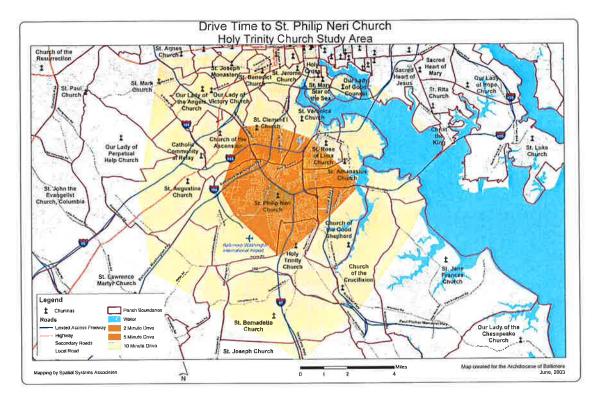
the study area. St. Philip Neri and St. Bernadette parishes both have fairly significant Asian percentages; though the extremely dark green area around BWI Airport is a little misleading. While it is true that 50% of the population of this block group is Asian, there are only four people living in that area. Asians make up 3.1% of the total population.

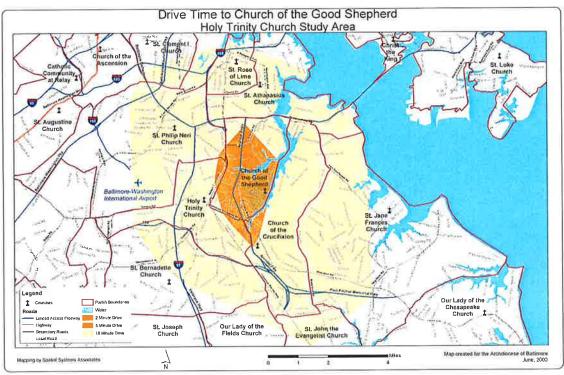
This analysis is not intended to suggest that all Hispanics would prefer Spanish language masses, or that African American or Asian catholics would prefer a separate parish. These demographic trends, however, are something that the Archdiocese needs to take into account and plan for, since cultural differences in spirituality need to be considered in liturgical planning.

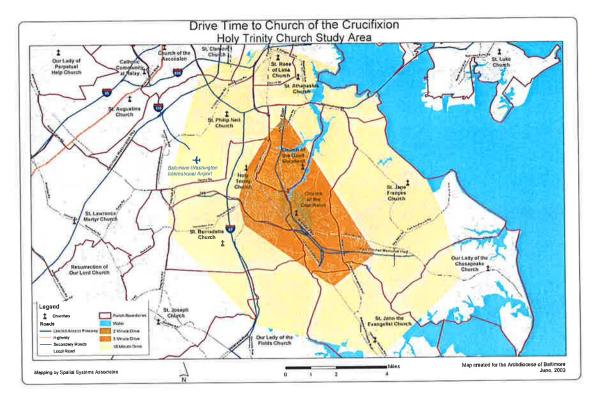
Drive Time

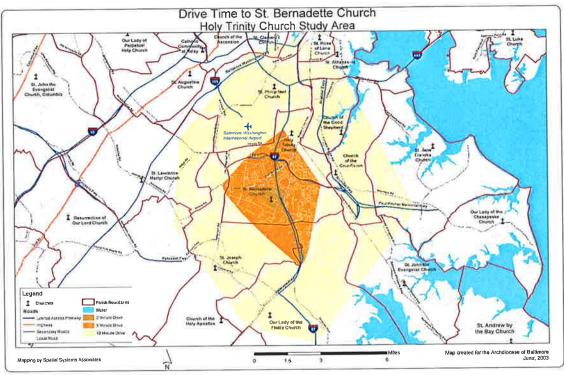
Usually, the amount of time it takes to drive from a family's home to their place of worship is a factor in determining where a family attends church. In this study area, however, the five churches in question are so close to one another that drive time is unlikely to play a big role in that decision. The following maps demonstrate this:









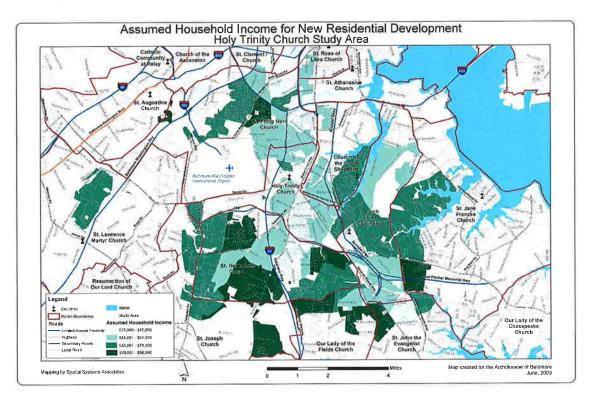


Ruling out drive time as a determining factor in church registration, the Archdiocese needs to look at other reasons why a family will choose to attend one church over another. Some of these reasons may be: pastoral staff, church architecture, type of service available (traditional vs. contemporary), availability of a preschool or other day

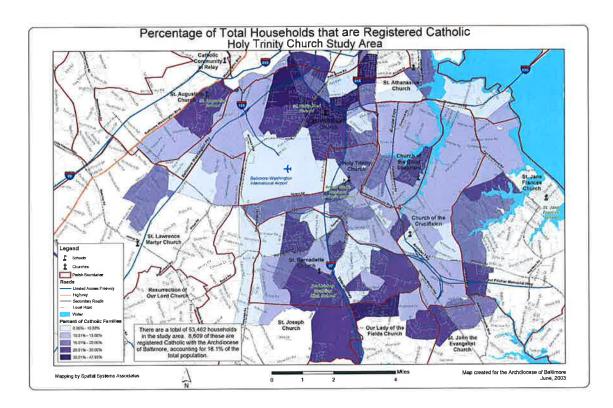
care services, availability of a school or high school, existing youth program, and other available ministries.

Expected Future Development and the Impact on Parishes

An analysis was performed to determine where additional development could take place in the study area, where development is likely to occur, the number of families that could be expected to move into the area, and the demographic characteristics of the new neighborhoods. Any new development in the area will have a financial impact on the parishes, so a study was done to project the income levels of families that may move into the region. The following map shows the expected income levels of families moving into the study area based on 2000 Census data:



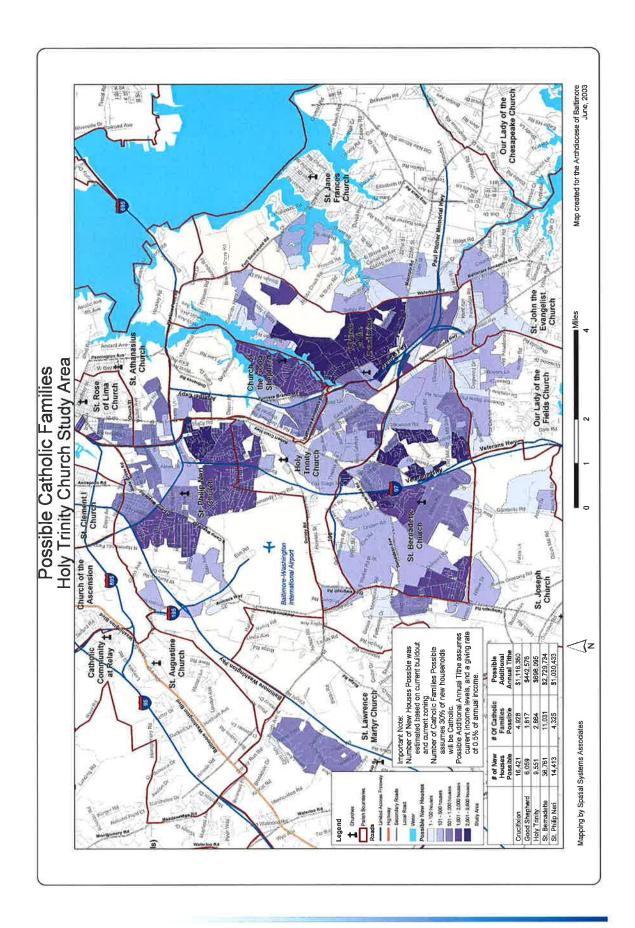
The next step was to determine what percent of the population in the study area was Catholic and was registered at a parish. The following map shows the results of this analysis. There are approximately 53,500 families in the study area, of which about 8,600, or 16.1%, are registered to a diocesan parish. The Archdiocese states an average of 25% of the general population as being Catholic, and this region seems to be significantly below that. This may be indicative of the region in general, or it may be caused by the fact that a large number of Catholic families in this area choose not to register with a church, or that the data used is not complete. It is interesting to note, however, that the area around St. Philip Neri church has a very high Catholic population, well above the accepted average. The area to the south of St. Bernadette church has a very high percentage as well.



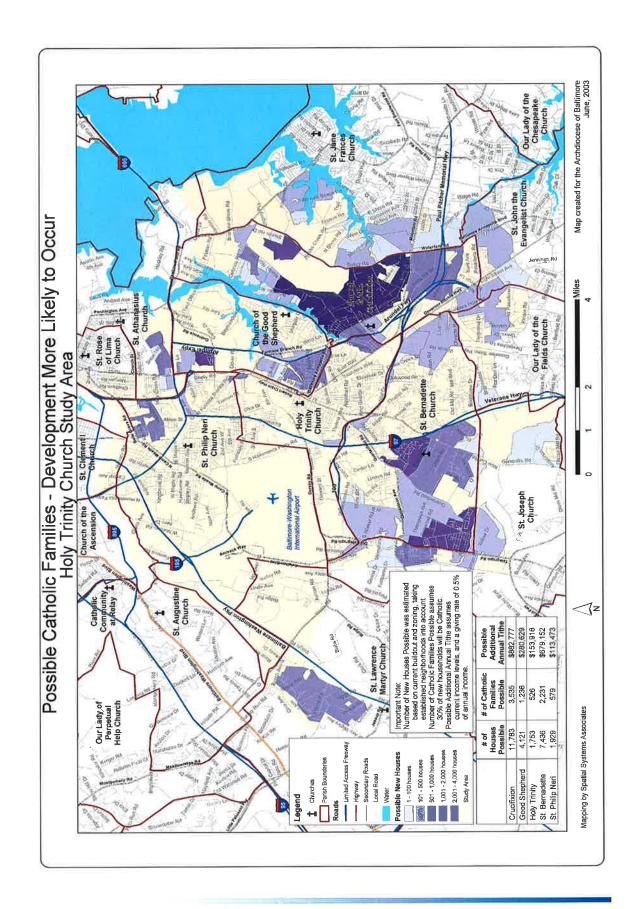
An analysis was then performed to try to asses what a full build out of the area might look like and how it would affect each parish. By looking at:

- the current level of development,
- the allowable development based on current zoning, and
- projections of household income based on current income levels in the area,

it is possible to predict the eventual total family count and parish income of the parishes in the study area. The following map depicts development potential based on this analysis:



This level of development is highly unlikely, as it would require demolishing existing established neighborhoods that were built at a lower density than zoning allowed. Given information obtained from field studies in the region and a list of approved subdivisions provided by Anne Arundel County, the same analysis was run again, using a more likely development scenario. The following map shows the results of this analysis:



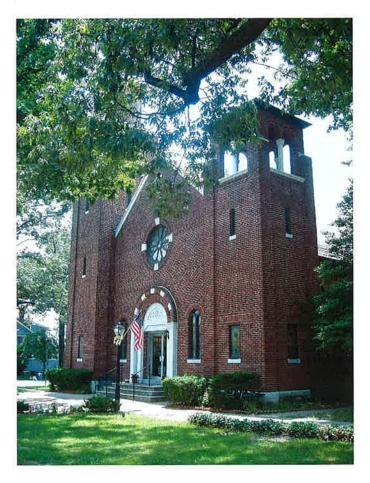
This map indicates the potential for significant growth and income increase in St. Bernadette and Crucifixion parishes and moderate growth in Good Shepherd parish. St. Philip Neri and Holy Trinity parishes will see little growth due to new developments within their boundaries. The assumption that 30% of new households will be Catholic and register at the parish in which they live seems rather optimistic, even if full build out of these areas does take place, and actual number of new parishioners would actually be somewhat lower. The assumption that the average family would tithe 0.5% of their annual salary is fairly accurate, based on current giving levels.

The analysis results in the following table of possible statistics for a full buildout (20 year) scenario:

Parish	Currently Registered Families	Current Average Household Income	Potential Additional Families	Potential Total Registered Families	Potential Total Annual Tithe	
Holy Trinity	2,337	\$52,875	526	2,863	\$756,906	
St. Philip Neri	2,158	\$56,460	579	2,737	\$772,655	
Good Shepherd	556	\$53,530	1,236	1,792	\$479,629	
Crucifixion	299	\$51,340	3,535	3,834	\$984,188	
St. Bernadette	1,304	\$60,937	2,231	3,535	\$1,077,061	
Totals	6,654		8,107	14,761		

Note the possibility of a growth of approximately 120% (more than doubling) in the number of registered families for the study area over the next 15-20 years, and the significant growth potential for Good Shepherd, Crucifixion and St. Bernadette. A discussion of these findings and their affects on a parish-by-parish basis follows. The questions posed in the problem statement will be addressed as well.

Holy Trinity



Holy Trinity parish has about 2,300 registered families. According to the most recent parish bulletin, the church offers eight masses on Sundays – two on Saturday night, one in Spanish, one in the gymnasium at Arthur Slade Regional School, and four in the old church on Baltimore Annapolis Boulevard. The Five Year Profile for Holy Trinity reports average attendance for masses as being 256 people, and the capacity of the original church pictured above is 325 people.



Holy Trinity Chapel at Arthur Slade Regional School

Holding eight masses every weekend is a drain on the resources of the church, both human and financial. Another solution is clearly needed, especially when the renovation of the Slade gymnasium begins. A new church does not have the majority support of the parishioners; neither does building temporary liturgical accommodations into the new gymnasium.

The analysis does not project explosive growth in the number of families registered to Holy Trinity, although the projected increase of 23% is not insignificant. Considering the tendency of regional families to cross parish boundaries to attend church at Holy Trinity, should this trend continue with the projected growth in the region the number of new families registering at Holy Trinity could be significantly higher.

The third option brought forth by the Archdiocese, to build a multi-purpose facility that would accommodate the activities of the gymnasium at the school and be planned aesthetically with liturgy in mind, seems to be the most practical answer at the moment. If this solution is selected however, what will become of the special liturgical accommodations built into the gymnasium if or when a new church structure does gain sufficient parishioner support?



Arthur Slade Regional School

If a new church structure is to be built, one of the questions in the problem statement asked where it would be located. The parish center and the largest worship site for the parish are located on the campus of Arthur Slade School and there is enough room on the grounds for a church. There are logistical problems with this, however. Can the traffic entrances and exits of the Arthur Slade campus handle the extra traffic created by the larger church? Will there be enough parking on location to handle both church and school activities, if they happen to coincide? Arthur Slade School is currently operating at close to capacity; if a church is built on the same grounds, will that significantly increase enrollments in the school?

The families registered to Holy Trinity church are spread fairly evenly throughout the study area. The original church structure is fairly centered in the sphere of influence, but there is not room to expand at that location. Arthur Slade is a little farther north, but only by a few blocks. Because of the smaller, dense nature of the area, the location of the church is not likely to be driven by the location of parishioners.

St. Philip Neri



St. Philip Neri parish has about 2,100 registered families. According to the most recent parish bulletin, the church offers five masses on Sundays – one on Saturday night, four on Sundays. The Five Year Profile for St. Philip Neri reports average attendance for masses as being 1,270 people, and the capacity of the church is 1,200 people.

One of the questions in the problem statement asked what would happen to Holy Trinity demographically, pastorally, or financially with the announcement of Father Zorbach's retirement at St. Philip Neri and the placement of a new pastoral leader. Currently, 266 families living within St. Philip Neri parish are registered to Holy Trinity, and 149 families living within Holy Trinity parish attend St. Philip Neri. Neither figure is large enough, given the registration numbers for both parishes, to have a great impact financially. Demographically, the neighborhoods families are coming from are so similar, that also would not have much of an impact. Current capacity at St. Philip Neri School is 579 students, and current enrollment is 532. There is room for more students to enroll, if families decide to return to St. Philip Neri, but the school can handle a loss of students if families decide to leave the parish.



St. Philip Neri School

Church of the Good Shepherd



Church of the Good Shepherd currently has about 556 registered families. According to the most recent parish bulletin, the church offers six masses each weekend – two on Saturday night and four on Sundays. The Five Year Profile for Good Shepherd reports average attendance for masses as being 355 people in 2001, and the capacity of the church is 375 people

The problem statement asks about the long term viability of the Church of the Good Shepherd after the current pastor, Father Kelly, retires, and whether it should remain a parish or revert to being a mass station for Holy Trinity. From field studies done, Good Shepherd seems to have a very loyal parishioner base, especially on the peninsula formed by Marley Creek and Furnace Creek. This area seems to be very insular; there is a very different look and feel to this area compared to other neighborhoods nearby. Also, the Five Year Profile reports the average household tithe to be about \$420 annually. The average household income within the parish boundaries is \$53,500; the accepted tithing rate of 0.5% would only be about \$270 per household. The families attending Good Shepherd donate generously to the church, and they may like the idea of having a smaller, neighborhood parish instead of being part of a larger, regional parish such as Holy Trinity.

Assuming the projections for growth within the parish boundaries are correct, Good Shepherd may see a tripling of registered families over the next 15-20 years to a total of approximately 1,800 families. If current income and tithing level are assumed to apply to this growth, the annual income for Good Shepherd would approximate \$756,000 in today's dollars. The viability of the parish thus appears sound, and the facility appears to be sufficient to accommodate expected growth.

Church of the Crucifixion



Church of the Crucifixion currently has about 299 registered families. According to the most recent parish bulletin, the church offers three masses each weekend – one on Saturday night and two on Sundays. The Five Year Profile for Crucifixion reports average attendance for masses as being 430 people in 2001, and the capacity of the church is 350 people.

The Archdiocese also questioned the long term viability of Church of the Crucifixion, and whether or not it should revert to being a mass station for Holy Trinity. Crucifixion has a small parishioner base, and a large number of Catholics who live within the parish boundaries are registered to other churches, most notably Holy Trinity. On the other hand, the families who do attend Crucifixion are very loyal and generous. The Five Year Profile reports that the average household tithe to be about \$415 annually. The parish has

an average annual income of \$51,300, the accepted 0.5% tithing rate of that would be about \$250.

In addition, there is great potential for development throughout Crucifixion parish. In addition to other, smaller developments that could occur throughout the parish, there is close to 500 acres of property between Marley Neck Road and Marley Creek that is completely undeveloped right now. It is zoned residential, between 2 and 10 units per acre, and is in a planned county sewer and water zone. This land is currently owned by a realty holding company located in Florida. This company appears to buy large tracts of open land and resell it to developers at a later date. This area has the potential to be a prime waterfront community, possibly more affluent than the surrounding neighborhoods. The pictures below show some of this land, off of an unpaved road that leads to a marina.



Given the current zoning of the area, the fact that much of the developable land is currently owned by a firm known to hold land for development purposes, and the proximity of the land to water, it is considered likely that Crucifixion parish will experience significant if not explosive growth over the next 15-20 years. If these projections come true, Crucifixion parish would not only be viable but would be the largest parish in the study area. Further, if the current tithing level is maintained during the growth period, the income of Crucifixion parish would approximate \$1.6 million annually.



This level of growth and income would necessitate expansion of Crucifixion's existing worship space since a church with a capacity of 350 would require nearly 20 masses each weekend to accommodate the projected number of parishioners.

Possibly a new church to accommodate both the needs of Holy Trinity and Crucifixion parishes should be considered, but clearly Crucifixion's viability appears sound.

St. Bernadette



St. Bernadette currently has about 1,300 registered families. According to the most recent parish bulletin, the church offers four masses on each weekend – one on Saturday night and three on Sundays. The Five Year Profile for St. Bernadette reports average attendance for masses as being 284 people, and the capacity of the church is 510 people.

The parishioners at St. Bernadette have requested a new church structure, and the Archdiocese wanted to know if there is a need for two new churches in the region, if one is built for Holy Trinity as well. Currently, there is a lot of crossover between St. Bernadette and Holy Trinity; 447 families living within St. Bernadette parish are registered to Holy Trinity. If a new church is built for Holy Trinity, this number could increase even more. Parishioners at St. Bernadette donate very generously; the average household tithe according to the Five Year Profile is over \$540 annually. Also, there is significant development taking place in the parish. Much of this new development tends to be large single family homes on smaller lots, starting in the \$400,000 price range



The pictures below show two of these new developments, both are located south of Archbishop Spalding High School off of New Cut Road. The new families moving into these houses will be more affluent than the current residents of the parish.



Development in St. Bernadette parish, on New Cut Road





Development in St. Bernadette parish, on Old Oak Road

Projections are that the registrations at St. Bernadette parish will increase by 170% over the next 10-20 years, perhaps sooner given current construction levels in the region.

Conclusions

The following table summarizes the findings for the study area parishes with regard to existing facilities and the level of use currently. The Family/Capacity ratio is calculated by dividing the number of registered families by the reported capacity of the church facility. The Capacity Mass Family ratio is calculated by multiplying the reported capacity by the number of masses and dividing the result by the number of registered families.

Parish	Existing Church Capacity	Existing Number of Families	Family/ Capacity Ratio	Current Number of Masses Weekly	Capacity Mass Family Ratio	Reported Mass Attendance
Holy Trinity	325	2,337	7.19	8	1.11	256
St. Philip Neri	1,200	2,158	1.80	5	2.78	1,270
Good Shepherd	355	556	1.57	6	3.83	375
Crucifixion	350	299	0.85	3	3.51	430
St. Bernadette	510	1,304	2.56	4	1.56	284

The family/capacity ratio is indicative of whether the church size is sufficient for the number of families currently registered to the parish. The ratio for Holy Trinity indicates that the church is undersized, as evidenced by the need to hold services at the school and the number of services required each weekend. A larger number of services each weekend requires additional liturgical staff, including priests, servers, etc. A low ratio may indicate a church that is currently oversized or that is decreasing in use.

When the number of masses is factored in, as was done for the Capacity Mass Family ratio, the resulting figure tends to indicate whether the church is full during services. A high number would tend to indicate that the church is more empty during mass. If this number approximates the average family size, the church would be assumed to be full during all masses.

It would appear that Good Shepherd may be conducting more masses per weekend than justified by family registration. It also appears that both Holy Trinity and St. Bernadette are operating at capacity. St. Bernadette may be able to accommodate some growth by increasing the number of masses each weekend, but that may necessitate additional parish staff. Holy Trinity would clearly benefit from a new facility that would accommodate a larger number of parishioners, hopefully reducing the number of masses required.

The following table represents a similar analysis based on projected buildout over the next 10-20 years.

Parish	Existing Church Capacity	Potential Number of Families	Family/ Capacity Ratio	Current Number of Masses Weekly	Capacity Mass Family Ratio	Possible Required Weekend Masses
Holy Trinity	325	2,863	8.81	8	0.91	17
St. Philip Neri	1,200	2,737	2.28	5	2.19	5
Good Shepherd	355	1,792	5.04	6	1.19	10
Crucifixion	350	3,834	10.95	3	0.27	22
St. Bernadette	510	3,535	6.93	4	0.58	14

The last column – possible required masses – is calculated by multiplying the potential number of families by 2 (assuming an average family size of 2) and dividing the result by the current capacity of the church. Even if an average attendance of 50% is assumed, many of these parishes will either require additional priests/masses or larger facilities within 10-20 years, and the facilities would not be able to accommodate larger attendance during the traditional holiday masses. The statistics argue strongly for consideration of building a large capacity church in this vicinity to be shared among several parishes. Clearly Holy Trinity, Crucifixion, and St. Bernadette parishes may experience capacity problems in this timeframe, with the most notable new problems arising for Crucifixion and St. Bernadette's.