



## Letter from the Archbishop Archdiocesan Planning Process

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Dear Friends in Christ,

“Behold I make all things new.” (Revelation 21:5)

I wish you well in this New Year! 2010 promises to be a year of great change and spiritual growth for our local Church as we move forward in the archdiocesan planning process. I ask for your continued prayers now, as the Archdiocesan Planning Task Force begins deliberating its recommendations regarding future planning for the Archdiocese. Task force members are considering proposals from pastors as well as input collected from parish leaders and parishioners who participated in sessions across the Archdiocese in the summer and fall of 2009.

This upcoming summer, the Planning Task Force will submit to me its recommendations about how best to organize the Archdiocese to fulfill most effectively the mission of the Church.

Nothing has been predetermined. No decisions have yet been made. However, everyone must be prepared to make sacrifices for the greater good of our local Church. It is possible that some parishes and schools will be clustered, merged, or realigned.

With full realization of the gravity of the decisions which lie ahead, I ask for your continued prayers and indeed the prayers of all the faithful in the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis.

On the reverse of this letter, please find the Prayer for the Planning Process, in English and Spanish. Please join me in asking for the Holy Spirit’s guidance as we discern God’s will for the future of this Archdiocese.

With every good wish, I remain

Cordially yours in Christ,

The Most Reverend John C. Nienstedt  
Archbishop of Saint Paul and Minneapolis

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*Please see the reverse side for the Prayer for the Planning Process*

January, 2010—Volume VII

**PRAYER FOR THE  
PLANNING PROCESS**

God our Creator,

You have given us the Church  
as a communion of life, love and truth.

You gave us your Son Jesus Christ  
who desires that all may be one  
as you are one with him.

Your gift of the Holy Spirit gathers people of  
every race, language and way of life.

Your apostle and our patron Paul  
calls us to be one body in Christ.

Guide us as we discern your will  
for the future of this local Church.

Bless us as we attend to the needs of this  
Archdiocese.

May our deliberations and decisions be marked  
with respect, patience and honesty.

We pray that we might shine forth  
as a people made one in the unity  
of you who are Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us.

Saint Paul, pray for us.

**ORACIÓN POR EL  
PROCESO DE PLANIFICACIÓN**

Dios Nuestro Creador

Tú que nos has dado la Iglesia  
como comunión de vida, amor y verdad.

Tú que nos diste a tu Hijo Jesucristo  
quien desea que todos seamos uno solo  
como tú eres uno en él.

Tú que nos diste el regalo del Espíritu Santo  
que reúne también a la gente de cualquier  
clase y condición y de toda raza y lengua.

Tu apóstol y nuestro patrón San Pablo  
nos llamas a ser uno solo en el Cuerpo de Cristo.

Guíanos a la vez que cumplimos tu voluntad  
para el futuro de esta Iglesia local.

Bendícenos a la vez que atendemos las necesida-  
des  
de esta Arquidiócesis.

Para que nuestras deliberaciones y decisiones  
tengan el sello del respeto, paciencia y honesti-  
dad.

Oramos para que brillemos como un solo pueblo,  
en unidad contigo, que eres el Padre,  
el Hijo y el Espíritu Santo

Amén.

Santa María Madre de la Iglesia, ruega por noso-  
tros.

San Pablo, ruega por nosotros