

Parish Sharing Ideabook Preface

Parishes in the Archdiocese of Chicago have been sharing for over 40 years. Pioneering communities like Presentation and St. Joseph's in Libertyville "twinned" years before the Parish Sharing Program began. Bishop Michael Dempsey and Bishop William McManus spread the idea in the early 1970s through "Operation Friendship". Then in 1976, every parish in the Archdiocese became a part of the Parish Sharing Program.

Now, as always, the vitality of Parish Sharing has depended on the creativity and energy of Sharing Partners. This **Parish Sharing Ideabook** describes how parishes have made Sharing an integral part of the faith life of their communities.

Francis Cardinal George, in his Pastoral Letter on Racism, **Dwell In My Love**, writes of the vision of a community dwelling in God's unconditional and universal love: "Sent by the risen Christ, the Holy Spirit dwells in our hearts and in our midst to empower us to live truly as God's people. By the power of the Holy Spirit acting in us, we can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine (Eph.3:20)."

For more information regarding the entire Ideabook or anything else concerning Parish Sharing, call the Office for Peace and Justice at 312-534-3690.