

PAGELLA OF FACULTIES

V. The Multiplication of Masses

- A. "As regards the time and number of Masses to be celebrated in parishes, the good of the parish community should be kept in mind and the number of Masses should not be so multiplied as to weaken the effectiveness of the pastoral effort: e.g., if through the great number of Masses, only small groups of the faithful were to come to each of the Masses in a church that can hold a great number of people. Another example would be if, for the same reason, the priests were so overburdened by their work as to make it difficult for them to fulfill their ministry adequately" (from the Instruction on the Worship of the Eucharistic Mystery, "May 25, 1967).
- B. It is not good for "the pastoral effort" to multiply Masses without real necessity. The more liturgies a parish has on a weekend, the more difficult it is to have each one be a good one; and good liturgies must be one of the main goals of our pastoral effort since good liturgies build up faith and poor ones weaken faith.
- C. In light of this, it is the policy of this Diocese that the pastor, in consultation with the parish pastoral council, will annually evaluate any Mass which utilizes less than 50% of the seating capacity of a church facility, with this evaluation moving in the direction of consolidating liturgies.