

The following samples are text only. Please format in a way that suits your parish bulletin.

Announcements for 3 months prior to the start of faith sharing...

- As you pack your bags and head out to your summer destinations, the *New Wine, New Wineskins* Parish Team wishes you a peaceful and relaxing summer season.
- While you are soaking up the summer sun and fun, we will be busy planning our parish's exploration of the essential spiritual dimensions of what it means to be new wine in new wineskins, as a newly restructured parish.
- When you get back, look for more details on how you can get involved in this process that offers the opportunity for new friendships, stronger faith, and a deeper relationship with God through prayer and the Scriptures in a small group setting. Sign up Weekend for *New Wine, New Wineskins* is scheduled for _____.

Announcements for one month prior to the start of faith sharing...

- Our parish of _____ is beginning *New Wine, New Wineskins*, a process of discovering a future of hope and possibility as a newly restructured parish. The process is presented by RENEW International. All parishioners are welcome to join.
- What is *New Wine, New Wineskins*? *New Wine, New Wineskins* draws on a Catholic understanding of the Paschal Mystery the dying and rising of Jesus Christ that is central to Christian life. This central mystery of our faith leads us to a deeper understanding of what it means to be Church in our newly restructured parish setting.
- How will *New Wine, New Wineskins* help this parish? *New Wine, New Wineskins* will enable people to: deepen their faith, develop a closer relationship with Christ, grow in community and ownership as a new parish reality and reach out in service to others.
- The *New Wine, New Wineskins* process begins with a period of formation for the *New Wine, New Wineskins* Parish Team, a group of 8-10 parishioners who will lead the parish through this process of spiritual renewal and revitalization. There will be an opportunity for parishioners to participate in small faith-sharing communities that meet in homes and other locations throughout the parish over the course of two six week periods (or whatever is the agreed upon timeframe, e.g. one 12 week period).

- Prayer is essential to the process of spiritual renewal and revitalization called *New Wine, New Wineskins*. Please take some time and pray with your family as our parish enters into this time of spiritual renewal.
- The *New Wine, New Wineskins* process applies the standard of Christ to all areas of life. It emphasizes people living in good relationship with one another, as they make concrete applications of the Gospel to their life situations and in particular as we embrace our new reality as a restructured parish.
- *New Wine, New Wineskins* might be just what your spirit needs. Give it a try. You may sign up for a group on the weekend of _____ or call _____, your *New Wine, New Wineskins* Parish Team representative at _____. Faith-sharing groups will begin meeting the week of _____.
- *New Wine, New Wineskins* is open to anyone. Only 90 minutes a week can change your life. You may sign up for a group on the weekend of _____ or call _____ at _____.
- Why not be part of something that promises to have a positive effect on our parish restructuring? *New Wine, New Wineskins* is open to anyone. It is an opportunity to get to know others from your parish. You may sign up for a group on the weekend of _____ or call _____ at _____.
- The goals of the *New Wine, New Wineskins* process are:
 - teaching and witnessing to the Word of God in Sacred Scripture
 - developing vibrant communities of faith and service that are ongoing
 - exploring the essential spiritual dimensions of what it means to be a parish community in light of the restructuring
 - providing a concrete and practical means of evangelization
- Would you like to join a *New Wine, New Wineskins* small faith-sharing community but don't know how to fit it into your schedule? This is no small challenge! In fact, for many of us it would be impossible to add on anything more to our already bursting schedules! We are doing the best we can to balance family, friends, work, community, and church. So, maybe instead of adding on, we could re-think, re-vision, or re-shape some of the time we have already carved out in order to include a small faith-sharing community in our lives. Here are some suggestions:
 - What if we (adults, young adults or teens) took our Friday night out and changed dinner and a movie to pizza with friends (existing or yet-to-made) who are in a *New Wine, New Wineskins* small faith sharing community?

- For those who are free during the day, while the kids are at school, let's take the time we've set aside for catching up with friends and include a *New Wine, New Wineskins* experience instead.
- If we have pre-school children at home, perhaps we could share a babysitter with other parents and give ourselves the gift of a *New Wine, New Wineskins* community.
- If we have an exercise routine with others, could we re-fashion it to include an hour and a half of *New Wine, New Wineskins* with our exercise buddies?
- Is it possible that a book club become a *New Wine, New Wineskins* community?
- Is *New Wine, New Wineskins* a way to commit to more family time with siblings, cousins, aunts or uncles?
- ✓ Always remember to include a contact name, phone number and email address.

Depending on when you begin, here are some creative verses to help get the message out:

New Wine, New Wineskins

We're looking ahead to the fall
to begin faith sharing for us all.
Get ready to sign on the dotted line
for we hope you'll answer the call.

New Wine, New Wineskins

Are there times when your faith is in doubt?
And you're not sure what life's all about?
It might help to share with people who care.
So let's meet in small groups and find out.

New Wine, New Wineskins

No collections, donations, no, nothing like that.
Nothing to bring but there's one caveat.
Take all of yourself, your heart and your soul
to small-group faith sharing – that is our goal.

New Wine, New Wineskins

How many angels fit on the edge of a pin?
Is not the kind of question we are interested in.
Are we caught up with Idol and Dancing with the Stars,
when the call to renewal is truly ours?

- You can also include information about RENEW International such as:

RENEW International is a canonically-recognized Catholic organization based in Plainfield, NJ, in the Archdiocese of Newark. RENEW International fosters spiritual renewal in the Catholic tradition by empowering individuals and communities to encounter God in everyday life, deepen and share faith, and connect faith with action. RENEW International has over a 35-year record in revitalizing parish life in over 150 dioceses in the United States, touching the lives of 25 million people through its ministry services. RENEW International also reaches many thousands outside the United States, having served people in 30 countries, across six continents and in 44 languages.