



Renew My Church: Parish Conversation To Discuss Our Future

As Jesus Christ calls us to constantly renew His Church, we must be prepared to lend our voice and efforts to the possible ways in which we bring about that needed renewal. Included here is a summary of where we are today, but much more will be shared in our Parish Meeting on this **Tuesday, September 21st, at 7PM in the Church** – please come to learn more, and share your feedback and input.

Process Overview

Renewal requires envisioning, planning, and new means to bring Jesus Christ to others. More than 100 groupings of parishes and schools across the Archdiocese are engaging in a process to address necessary questions of structure, how to work together across communities within each grouping, and to establish a strong foundation for vitality through focused evangelization and faith formation efforts. Supporting our parishes with the best structures enables us to breathe renewed life into our efforts to make disciples, build communities, and inspire witness.

Initial Scenarios

To initiate discussion, the Pastors of our grouping parishes and a Team at the Archdiocese Pastoral Center will offer a set of initial scenarios that show potential models of how our parishes and schools could be configured in the future. These initial scenarios, which will be shared in detail at our next Parish Meeting, are conversation starters only. **No decisions have been made.** These scenarios reflect our grouping's local realities using a set of criteria determined using data across the Archdiocese to evaluate how a structure would support vitality and ensure viability, such as:

- **Ministerial and Spiritual Needs of the Parish:** To enliven the work of evangelization, formation, worship, and pastoral care in today's time and culture, parishes ordinarily will build a strong Staff Team to support the Pastor. Staff Teams will be professionally trained and justly paid. To support this staffing and basic operations, such as paying utilities, parishes generally will need operating revenue of \$750,000 or more (excluding rental income).
- **Parishioner Count and Mass Attendance:** Based on the number of Pastors expected to be available across the Archdiocese in the future, a minimum of 800 Parishioners attending weekend Mass is needed to be assigned a full-time, resident Pastor.
- **Balanced Workloads for Priests:** It is critical that our Pastors are supported with the resources and teams to support Sacramental Life, Pastoral Care, and Parish Administration.
- **Parish Financial Stability and Facilities:** Parish financial stability and adequate, accessible, and safe facilities with capacity for growth and ongoing repair/maintenance.
- **School Vitality and Financial Stability:** A key measure is the **potential to enroll a minimum of 240 Students in PK-8**, considering area demographics and parish student population; as well as ensuring quality education, strong student social development, and sustainable operations.
- **Your Input is Needed:** Again, the initial scenarios will be conversation starters only. **No decisions have been made.** We are asked to provide feedback on the initial scenarios from the Archdiocese, and propose alternative scenarios and configuration models.

Please come to our next Parish Meeting this **Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at 7PM in the Church** to learn more and share your feedback and input.

As always, for more information, visit RenewMyChurch.org, or ask **Fr. Paul, Peggy Reid, Maggie Dolan, Phil Tobin, Ann Ennesser, Winnie Webber, or Areliz Ramirez.**

