



BEACONS *of* LIGHT

Parish Vitality Report

OVERVIEW

In his letter beginning the Parish Vitality Report, Archbishop Schnurr notes, “This Parish Vitality Report provides a snapshot of progress since Families of Parishes were implemented in July 2022. Please read this report in its entirety. *You will find within it glimpses of the new life envisioned in Beacons of Light.*”

Read Archbishop’s full letter in the Parish Vitality Report.

Good News!

It is encouraging to note that **81%** of Families of Parishes are **leading** – ahead of what might be expected at this time – **or on track** to meet the milestones of Phase 1 of Beacons of Light.



81%

of Families are on track or leading



Read the full Parish Vitality Report for more good news.

catholicaoc.org/pvr

Take the Survey

Share your experience by responding to the Parish Vitality Survey.

catholicaoc.org/vitality-survey



What Can We Do?

Four areas of challenge are also noteworthy, particularly since each may be addressed through the open minds, hearts, and active participation of all the people of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

✦ Build strong ties within the Family.

Most pastors of multi-parish Families noted that parochialism – the identification of people with their parish to the exclusion of the other parishes in the Family – is an obstacle for future vitality, unity, and growth.

✦ Appreciate the past while pointing toward the future.

Whether through longstanding ambivalence, rivalry, or concern that history or identity of the parish may be lost, parishioners are hesitant to embrace the change necessary for their Family to truly come to life.

✦ Adopt wider perspectives.

Not only are some tied to “their” parish but to a specific Mass time – either out of habit or because this is where they know people or feel comfortable. While such ties are understandable, all are challenged to widen our view and our connections with one another.

✦ Work beyond what divides us.

No two Families of Parishes are exactly alike. Even within a local region, Families are comprised of parishes that may be geographically close or dispersed, culturally similar or with differing liturgical sensibilities or ethnic composition. It will take time and creativity to discern the way forward together!