



BEACONS *of* LIGHT
**PASTORAL
PLANNING**
PATHWAY

How to Use Parish Inventories

These inventory tools are designed to help parish leaders assess one or more aspects of parish life before pastoral planning takes place within the Family of Parishes. Once the inventory tool is completed, it can be shared with leaders in the other parishes within the Family during Phase 1 to increase familiarity among all parishes.

In later phases, each Family will be asked to assess collectively the various aspects of parish life for the entire Family. These parish inventory tools will seed that assessment.

WAYS TO USE THE INVENTORY TOOL

- The appropriate staff member or parishioner leader fills out the inventory tool in Spring 2022 and exchanges it with his/her counterparts at the other parishes within the Family. This can spark thinking in the Spring and discussion in the Summer once Phase 1 begins.
- Collate all the inventory tools and present them to the incoming pastor as part of his orientation/on-boarding around July 1.
- Give them to the pastoral council and other relevant commissions/committees/teams to inform them about parish life and inspire their thinking about the future.
- Use the tool to open dialogue among staff members and other parish leaders within the Family and other parish leaders about possibilities for the future.
- Celebrate the positive things you discover and the opportunities you have to form a strong Family of parishes.

WAYS *NOT* TO USE THE INVENTORY TOOL

- Publish them in the bulletin.
- Base an employee evaluation on them.
- Judge other parishes based upon them.
- Assume that areas of needed growth cannot ever improve.

REMEMBER: these inventory tools are for YOU!

Only the leadership of the parishes within the Family will see these so take this opportunity to give an honest inventory of what's happening and not.