



**SAINT JOSEPH**  
Catholic Church • Alexandria, Virginia

Saint Joseph  
*“Embracing the Future”*  
Parish Initiative

Prepared for:  
St. Joseph Parishioners

Current as of:  
**Friday, January 29, 2021**

SAINT JOSEPH  
CATHOLIC CHURCH  
75

# “Embracing the Future” Initiative



Fr. Fest sees an opportunity to energize St. Joseph Parish and bring parishioners back into meaningful contact with one another after period of separation

“This is a follow-up to the strategic planning we did in 2016...”

“...We have an opportunity to energize our parish and reflect on who we are and how to best prioritize our actions going forward.”

“...Will offer all...to participate in...small group workshops...to hear your thoughts on how to...best advance the Church’s mission in our community.”

“...My prayer is that...this pandemic will soon end and that we can be reunited in-person very soon!”

***The purpose of these workshops is to hear your thoughts on how to prioritize the parish’s efforts and to bring everyone back together in a fun way!***

# Mission of the Catholic Church

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For us to prioritize our efforts, we must understand our mission: to bring the good news of salvation in Jesus through his Church to all people

- **To “the faithful”:** the ongoing conversion and formation of practicing Catholics in our parish;
- **To “the fallen away”:** reaching out to and rekindling the faith in local Catholics who are lukewarm or who no longer practice;
- **To “the far away”:** sharing the faith with those in our area who do not know Jesus, the Gospel, the Church.

*“Go and make disciples of all nations.” Mt 28:19-20*

***It is the role of each parish to carry out the Great Commission given by Christ to his disciples within its unique boundaries and circumstances***

# Mission of the Catholic Parish



The Great Commission is made up of the three great missions of Christ, of his Church, of all the baptized—and of every parish: the prophetic, the priestly and the shepherding

## THE PROPHETIC MISSION

- Proclaiming and teaching what we believe through formation in the faith
- The profession of faith
- Revealing truth

## THE PRIESTLY MISSION

- Celebrating what we believe in liturgy and prayer
- The celebration of the Christian mystery
- Showing beauty in liturgy, celebration, environment

## THE SHEPHERDING MISSION

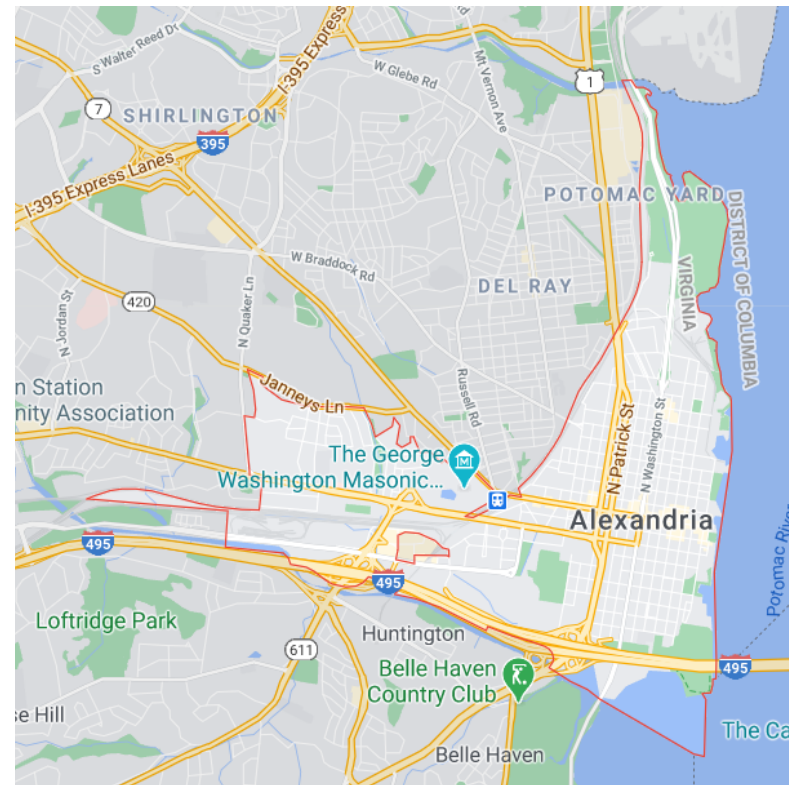
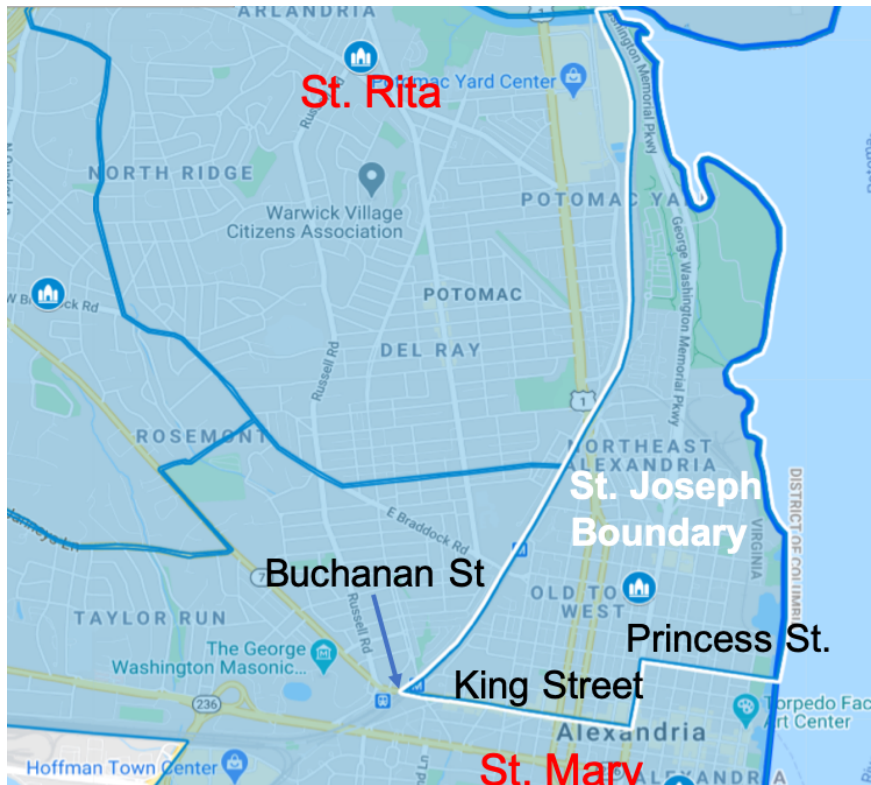
- Living what we believe in charity and justice
- Life in Christ
- Sharing goodness

***Each parish – under the guidance of its Pastor and within the parameters of Canon Law – has the responsibility and opportunity to tailor its efforts to answer Christ's charge***

# Mission Field: Geography



Originally a national parish, we are now a territorial parish and we are called to carry out our mission within our parish boundaries which serves a portion of Old Town Alexandria



***St. Joseph's parish encompasses a large portion of the Zip Code 22314. The total population for this zip code is 29,653 (2015). Average weekly Mass attendance is 344.***

# Mission Field: Demographics



Historically, our parish has focused on ministering to African Americans, but after its transition to a territorial parish, has continued to served as a home for those outside of its boundaries

## Relevant (2015) Demographic Breakdown of Zip Code 22314:

- Race
  - 22,137 – 74.7% White
  - 4,984 – 16.8% Black or African American
  - 1,080 – 3.6% Asian
- Gender
  - 14,194 – 48% Male
  - 15,459 – 52% Female
- Age (Median – 39)
- Income (Median Household \$117,037)
- Religious: 47.9%, Catholic: 14.2%

***Two neighborhoods in Alexandria saw the black population drop between 1,491 to 929 (38%), and from 825 to 406 (51%) between the years of 2000 and 2010.***

# Mission Context: Catholic Decline

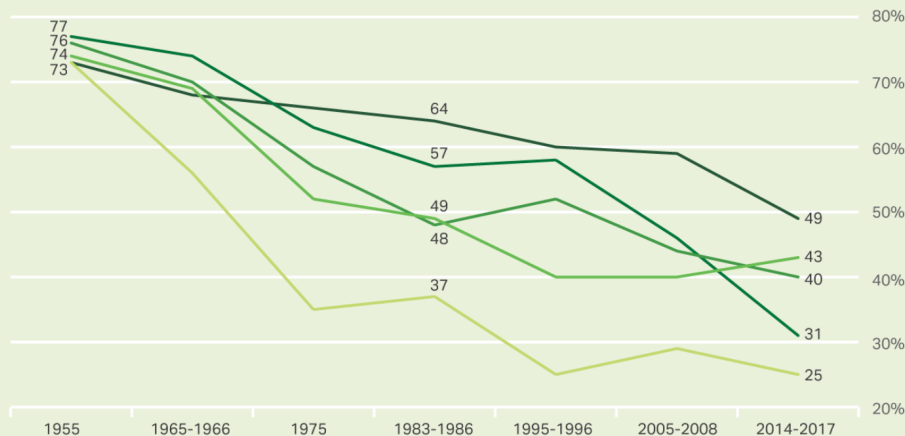


We must accomplish our mission during a time of religious decline. According to a recent Gallup poll, church attendance is down 36 percentage points from 1955

Church Attendance Among Catholics, by Age

% Attended church in past seven days

21-29 30-39 40-49 50-59 60+



GALLUP

- The majority of adult Catholics are not even certain that a personal relationship with God is possible
- Mass attendance is always lower than, and goes up and down with, the percentage of those who are certain that it is possible to have a personal relationship with God.

Source: <https://focusoncampus.org/content/what-catholics-are-reading-forming-intentional-disciples-by-sherry-weddel>

***When adding other analysis, we find that fewer than 10% of baptized Catholics in this country both attend Mass on Sundays and go to Confession at least once a year, which are the two metrics of sacramental obligation***

# Mission Context: Racial Tension



Our mission takes place during a challenging time of racial conversations in our country, and we can serve as a light on this sensitive issue

"...Millions of our brothers and sisters...today experience humiliation, indignity, and unequal opportunity only because of their race or the color of their skin...Racism has been tolerated for far too long in our way of life."

Archbishop José H. Gomez, President, US Conference of Catholic Bishops

"The Josephites stand in solidarity with communities where we serve to do all in our ability to rid the country of attitudes, actions, legislation and systems that deny the peace, dignity and very lives of God's people."

Bishop John H. Ricard, Superior General of the Society of St. Joseph of the Sacred Heart

"As we come face to face with the evil of racism, we must remember always that God has created us in his image and likeness. We are members of his Holy Family."

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge, Diocese of Arlington

***The USCCB has called for the Church to undertake the work of individual conversions of heart and the promotion of a just society.***



# Parish Site and Facilities



Given this mission, geography, and context, the parish site serves as the physical center and springboard for the mission of the parish in its area.

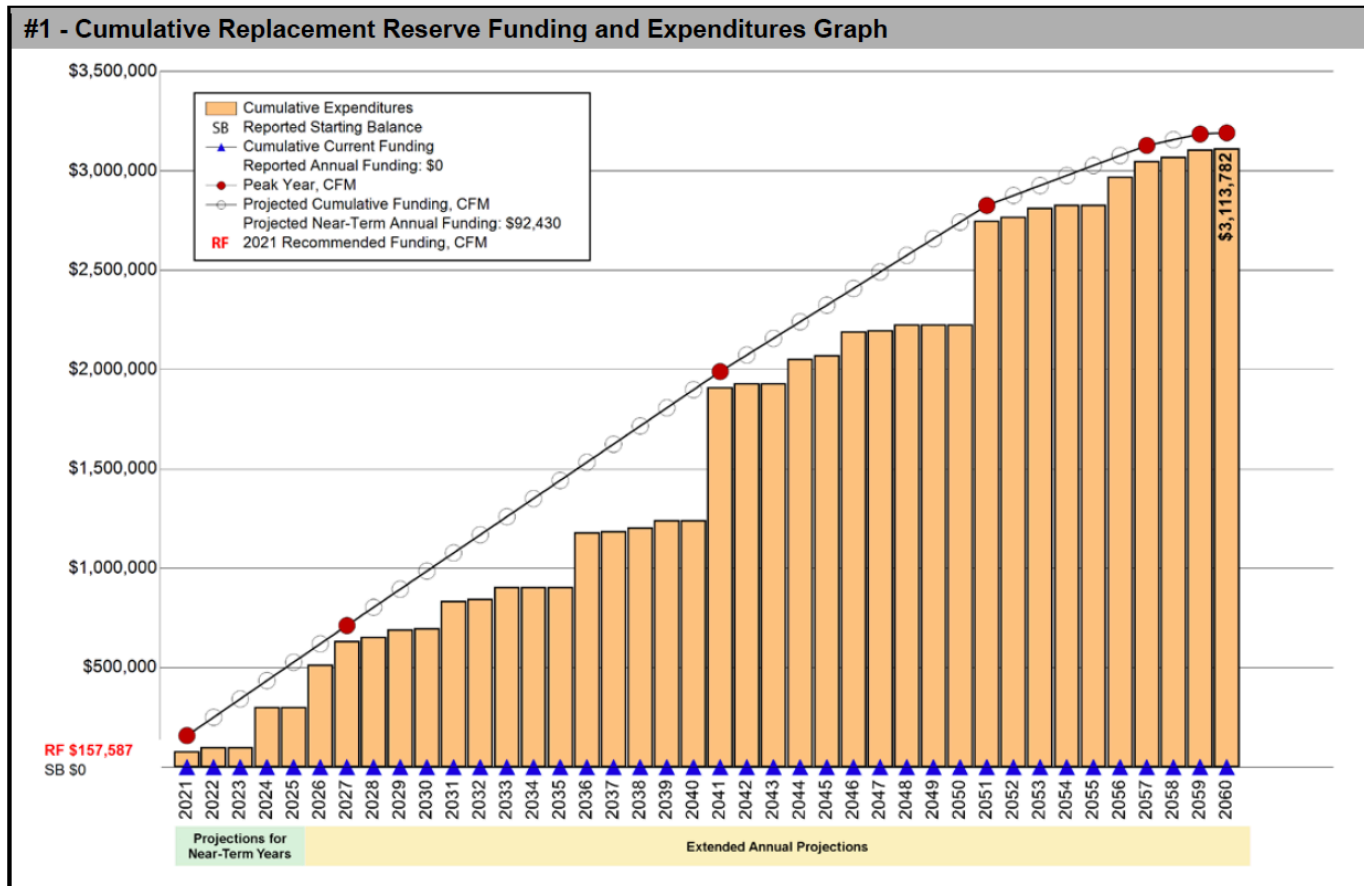


***Based on previous parish conversations, St. Joseph commissioned a Facilities assessment of the Church, Rectory, and School***

# Parish Site and Facilities



A recent Parish facilities study provides an inventory of facilities and components, an assessment of their condition, and projections on the investment required to fund their replacement or upkeep



***According to the study, the parish would need to set aside at least \$136,000 for year 2021 and approximately \$120,000 each year thereafter through 2027.***

# Current Financials



St. Joseph Parish maintains current assets of over \$1.5 million. This balance sheet is provided as a follow-up to the previous chart.

# Saint Joseph Parish

## Report to Parishioners

### FY20 Financial Report

Balance Sheet

	Church	School	Parish
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Operating Accounts	140,826	-	140,826
DIAL Savings	1,417,718	-	1,417,718
Fixed Assets	-	-	-
Endowment Investments	-	-	-
Other Assets	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 1,558,544</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,558,544</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Accounts Payable	(14)	-	(14)
Loans Payable	-	-	-
Deferred Revenue	-	-	-
Other Liabilities	818	-	818
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$ 804</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 804</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			
Unrestricted	1,558,544	-	1,558,544
Temporarily Restricted	-	-	-
Permanently Restricted	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 1,558,544</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,558,544</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 1,559,348</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,559,348</b>

***St. Joseph Parish can cover all the anticipated costs listed in the previous study without further capital contributions barring unanticipated expenses.***



# Current Financials



St. Joseph Parish generated an operating surplus of \$125k in FY20. This income statement is provided as a follow-up to the previous slide

Income Statement		Church	School	Parish
	REVENUE SOURCES			
	Offertory/Tuition Related Income	398,877	-	398,877
	Ministry	166,914	-	166,914
	School	-	-	-
	Other Sources	236,546	-	236,546
	TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	\$ 802,336	\$ -	\$ 802,336
	EXPENDITURES			
	Clergy	74,166	-	74,166
	Staffing	51,721	-	51,721
	Ministry	294,130	-	294,130
	School	-	-	-
	Buildings	178,418	-	178,418
	Admin	78,731	-	78,731
	TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSE	\$ 677,166	\$ -	\$ 677,166
	NET OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	\$ 125,170	\$ -	\$ 125,170
	OTHER INCOME AND EXPENSE			
	Campaign/Extraordinary Income	-	-	-
	Capital Expendures/Renovations	-	-	-
	NET OTHER INCOME (EXPENSE)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	\$ 125,170	\$ -	\$ 125,170

***St. Joseph Parish can cover all the anticipated costs listed in the previous study without further capital contributions barring unanticipated expenses.***

# Mission in Action



We face several challenges in the pursuit of the Church's mission: demographic changes, racial tensions, and an overall decline in Catholic life in the U.S.

## THE PROPHETIC MISSION

- Proclaiming and teaching what we believe through formation in the faith
- The profession of faith
- Revealing truth

## THE PRIESTLY MISSION

- Celebrating what we believe in liturgy and prayer
- The celebration of the Christian mystery
- Showing beauty in liturgy, celebrations, and environment

## THE SHEPHERDING MISSION

- Living what we believe in charity and justice
- Life in Christ
- Sharing goodness

***It is the task of our parish to envision, prioritize, and successfully execute our prophetic, priestly, and shepherding missions***

# St. Joseph's Prophetic Mission



The following are St. Joseph's programs and initiatives that advance its Prophetic Mission, which is aimed at professing the faith and forming dedicated Christians:

## PROPHETIC

### ADULTS

- **Faith Formation/Bible Studies (parish, virtual, and young adult):** Total participants = ~8. Meeting location: Parish hall.
- **Prayer Breakfasts + Retreats:** Total participants = varies widely (~20-50). Every year or other year depending on the retreat
- **Archbishop Lyke National Conference:** Total participants = varies according to location (~5-12). Yearly – focuses on how to incorporate Black identity into Catholic Mass

### YOUNG PEOPLE

- **Scholarships to Catholic Schools:** Scholarships given to those who attend Catholic grade school, high school, colleges. 15 recipients a year. Award size ranges from \$1500 (grade school) - \$3000 (high school and college)
- **World Youth Day:** Every three years. Attendance varies based on location. Approximately 8 attendees on average.
- **Kujenga:** Diocese of Richmond annual youth retreat. Approximately 10 attendees on average.
- **Lyke National Conference (Young Person Component):** Total participants = varies according to location (~2). Yearly – focuses on how to incorporate Black identity into Catholic Mass

# St. Joseph's Priestly Mission



The following are St. Joseph's programs and initiatives that advance its Priestly Mission, which centers on the liturgy and the sharing of the beautiful:

## PRIESTLY

- **Sacraments:** Baptisms, Confessions, Masses, Weddings, Funerals, and Homebound
- **Marriage, Baptism Prep:** Marriage prep sessions as needed (~8 per year on average); 12 Baptismal prep sessions per year. Meeting Location: Parish Hall
- **RCIA:** 3 Catechists/Team Members; 2 in class; 1 in inquiry; pending start. Traditionally meet weekly in the Chapel or Rectory Basement
- **Parish Religious Education Program (PREP) (Grades K-12):** Total participants = 32. 26 students and 6 teachers.; meet every Sunday before 10a Mass during academic year; traditionally meet in the Church School
  - First Communion Preparation (3 First Communion preps this year)
  - Confirmation Preparation (3 Confirmation preps this year)
- **Liturgical Ministries:** Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (18), Lectors (21), Ushers (12), Altar Servers (8), Sacristans (3), Art and Environment (2), Cantors (16), and Choirs (36). Yearly workshops.

# St. Joseph's Shepherding Mission



The following are St. Joseph's programs and initiatives that advance its Shepherding Mission, which focus on community and charitable works:

## LIFE IN CHRIST: Community

- **Knights of Peter Claver.** (Third Tuesday each month) Total participants = 30 including 21 St Joseph parishioners and 9 non-St Joseph parishioners/Meeting Location: Church Rectory Basement
- **Knights of Peter Claver Ladies' Auxiliary.** (Third Tuesday each month) Total participants = 49 including 43 St Joseph parishioners and 6 non-St Joseph parishioners/Meeting Location: Parish Hall
- **Junior Daughters and Junior Knights.** Total participants = Junior Knights = 7 and Junior Daughters = 10/Meeting Locations: Junior Knights (Church School) and Junior Daughters (Parish Hall).
- **Legion of Mary.** 5 participants. Meeting Location – Parish Hall
- **Welcome Committee** – Total participants = 10/Meeting Location – Parish Hall
- **Hospitality/Repast Committee** – Total participants = 6/Meeting Location – Parish Hall
- **Parish Social Activities.** Jazz luncheon + the Cotton Ball + Parish Picnic + Fish Fries + Rainbow Tea (for Oblate Sisters) + Women's Day Weekend + Softball Team
- **St Joseph Gospel Choir** (services and programs outside of parish liturgies/concerts inside and outside the Washington, DC area) – Total participants = 22/Meeting Locations – St Joseph Church and various locations throughout the Washington DC area.
- **Sisters in the Spirit** – Total participants = 40 (including 14 St Joseph Church parishioners and 26 non-St Joseph Church parishioners). Meeting location - St Joseph Church Parish Hall.
- **Black Catholic Ministries** – Total participants = ~20 St Joseph parishioners /Meeting Location: Parish Hall and various Arlington Diocese churches.
- **Knights of Columbus – 4 participants** – Meet monthly on 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday. Meet at St. Mary's Lyceum and virtually.
- **Young Adult Group (Shawn).** Total participants = ~10 active (over 30 on GroupMe). General meeting is 1 per month. Young adult Bible study 1 per month. No parish space used.
- **Youth Council.** ~7-10 participants. Meet in the Parish Hall.



# St. Joseph's Shepherding Mission



The following are St. Joseph's programs and initiatives that advance its Shepherding Mission:

## CHARITY & JUSTICE: Outreach and Advocacy

- **Parish Community Outreach and Emergency Financial Support:** Food Pantry + Coat and Clothing Drives + Financial assistance (utilities, rent, medical) + Holiday assistance (Thanksgiving and Christmas)
  - Food Pantry/Financial assistance (every Thursdays) – Total participants = 5/Meeting Location: Parish Hall.
  - Coat and Clothing Drives/Holiday assistance – Total participation varies/Meeting location: Parish Hall
- **Christ House** – (Fourth Tuesday each month) Total participants = Varies/Meeting Location: Christ House, 131 S West Street, Alexandria, VA
- **Meals on Wheels** – (Second Tuesday each month) Total participants = 14/Meeting Location: Jeffrey's Catering Company, 4415 Wheeler Avenue, Alexandria, VA
- **VOICE** – Total participants = 10/Meeting Location: small meeting in Parish Hall/Large annual meeting in Church
- **ALIVE (57 churches in Alexandria)** – Total participants = 4/Meeting Location: small meeting in Parish Hall
- **Social Concerns Committee** – (Meets fourth Tuesday each month) Total participants = 10/Meeting Location: Parish Hall
- **Pro-Life Committee** – Total participants = 8/Meeting Location: Parish Hall
- **Incarcerated Ministries** – Total participants = 10/Meeting Location: Parish Hall
- **Cursillo** – Total participants = 2/Meeting Location: Parish Hall
- **Ignation Volunteer Corps** – Total participants = 15/Meeting Location: quarterly meetings in Parish Hall

# Your Turn



- You have gotten a view of the many moving parts and pieces of our parish amid its place in the larger Church and in these times.
- The next step is yours: to define the items of importance to the parish and their order of importance.
- Make sure to sign up for a small group workshop that promises to be collaborative and fun, but also serious in putting us on our path to our parish future.

