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MEMBERS OF NORTHWEST MILWAUKEE CATHOLIC PARISHES

**NWMCP Strategic Planning Update
May 2023**

“FEED MY LAMBS...TEND MY SHEEP”

As the work of the four tri-parish workgroups (Liturgy & Evangelization, Finance & Facilities, Education & Community Outreach, and Special Projects/Community Life Center) comes to a close, each team is presenting to the Strategic Planning Steering Committee its recommendations for the future of our parishes. Soon we will share with you those recommendations for your review, reaction, and comments. This will be done in a variety of ways: parish websites, bulletins, letters, and informational announcements at Masses.

While the Steering Committee still needs to receive and review all recommendations, certain themes continue to emerge through ongoing discussions with the workgroups:

- We need to reverse the trend of declining parish memberships and reduced Mass attendance by welcoming back those parish members who may have left (for a variety of reasons) and reaching out to those who do not yet know us or our faith.
- Besides focusing on our churches, grounds, and buildings, we must reach out to the underserved people (the poor, the sick, the hungry) in the greater Northwest Milwaukee community who are in need to provide support and services to them.
- We all should strive to learn more about our Catholic faith, not only to deepen our relationship with God, but also to be able to share our faith journeys with others.
- Catholic education must be a priority, both for our supported school and for growth in faith for our parishioners.
- Combining the purchasing of goods and services for all parishes should result in volume discounts, consistency in delivery, and reduced staff administrative work.

These are some of the major “themes” (not specific recommendations!) emerging to date. You will receive all the specific recommendations following the reports to the Steering Committee occurring this month, after the prioritization of those recommendations by the Steering Committee.

We look forward to your input as we communicate the recommendations that will make our parishes truly a vibrant Catholic presence in Northwest Milwaukee!