



Proclaim Christ *and* Make Disciples through the Sacramental Life of the Church.

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Priest and Parish Director Forums **March 8 and September 22, 2016** ***Third and Final Forum – March 10, 2017***

Top Priorities from the Forums

Parishes

- 1. Establish a clear vision for parishes and develop parish models for the future in the Archdiocese - 23.66%** – *This priority will be discussed further at the March 10, 2017 Forum.*
- 2. Identify ways to better reach younger generations of Catholics - 17.74%** – *This priority is already included in the work of Synod Implementation and the Office of Evangelization-Young Adult Ministry. They will continue to develop a response.*
- 3. Develop a strategy to more fully engage those who are Catholic “in name only” - 16.67%** - *This priority is also included in the work of Synod Implementation and the Office of Evangelization and they will continue to develop a response.*
4. Less emphasis on business and more on mission - 16.13%
5. Evaluate the viability of all parishes and merge more of them - 11.83%
6. Provide ways to identify, recruit, train and form parish volunteers - 8.60%
7. Improve long-term financial sustainability - 3.23%
8. Study and address deteriorating parish and school facilities - 2.15%

Parish Leadership

- 1. Provide training and formation for lay ministers/parish staffs - 25.57%** – *This area will be a main focus of the new Office for Lay Ministry that has been established.*
- 2. Renew a sense of calling, service and understanding of the universal call to holiness - 20.45%** – *The Archdiocesan Council of Priests, Archdiocesan Pastoral Council, Office for Lay Ministry, and the committees working on the various Intercultural Ministries Pastoral Plans will be asked to discuss this further and develop possible initiatives and responses.*
- 3. Address the insufficient number of priests in quantity and quality to serve our parishes – 14.77%** - *This priority will be discussed further at the March 10, 2017 Forum.*
4. Reduce the time priests spend on parish administration – 10.23%
5. Adjust seminary training to better match parish needs – 7.39%
6. Expand assignment and support for parish directors – 6.82%
7. Improve training for pastors assigned to serve multiple parishes – 6.25%
8. Revise and re-introduce the role of parish consultant – 5.11%
9. Help laity understand the challenges of Church leadership today – 3.41%