THE PASTORATE PLANNING JOURNEY

Preparing you for the trip are:
- Dedicated Facilitator
- Quarterly Pastor Cohort Gatherings
- Pastor Cohort Retreat
- Monthly Check-ins w/Facilitator
- Monthly Coaching Sessions

Preparation

To get started now, you can:
- Build relationships in multi-parish pastorates
- Right-size and align parish resources
- Get to know your “mission territory”

Form

Prepare for the journey with prayer and meditation on:
- Missionary Discipleship
- Core Mission Priorities
- Personal Encounter with Christ

Activation

Assess

Reflect on why and how God is working through your pastorate now. What challenges and opportunities has He offered you? What approach will be used to intentionally respond to this invitation?

Set Direction

What would your pastorate look like if everyone was a missionary disciple?! This vision is God’s preferred future. Strategically plan how you will move closer to the vision by setting goals, objectives, and strategies.

Implement & Monitor

Produce detailed action plans and identify a “champion” for each goal or priority – someone who will be accountable for making it happen – and have a plan for keeping track of your success!

MAKE DISCIPLES!

www.BeMissionaryDisciples.org
The Pastorate Planning Journey – Key Terms

**Preparation** – Activities in preparation for planning activation including educating key leaders on what missionary discipleship is and what other parishes have been doing, and building relationships between multi-parish pastorates.

**Activation** – Each year, a group (cohort) of pastorates are “activated,” meaning they embark on an intentional evangelization-based planning process. Pastorates can nominate themselves to be chosen as part of a cohort.

**Orientation** – Initial meeting in the planning process with the Office of Pastoral Planning (OPP) to introduce key information for the process and identify initial steps.

**Sacred Purpose Workshop** – A mini-retreat led by the OPP in which key people in the pastorate reflect on why and how God is working through the pastorate now. A Sacred Purpose Statement is produced.

**Plan Scoping** – The OPP, pastor, and other key leaders outline the unique planning process that will be followed. It should integrate existing plans, reflect pastorate-specific circumstances, and provide times for parishioner input.

**Team Formation on Concepts** – Once a Pastorate Planning Team (PPT) is formed, the OPP leads a review of and discussion on key planning terms and concepts, community demographics, and parish data and trends. This forms a strong foundation for moving into evangelization-based planning.

**Evangelization SWOT** – An active exercise the OPP leads the PPT through to consider the pastorate’s Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats relative to evangelization.

**Mission Statement** – The OPP helps the PPT to develop a statement of that describes what the pastorate does, for whom, and to what benefit. This is often reflects an existing mission statement(s) and/or the Sacred Purpose Statement.

**Vision** – The OPP leads the PPT through a series of exercises to imagine the pastorate in a few years when it is full of missionary disciples. This produces a Vision Statement that describes “God’s preferred future” for the pastorate.

**Goals (CMPs)** – Typically, the goals for a pastorate’s plan are the six Core Mission Priorities (CMPs), those aspects of discipleship that make pastorates vibrant, sustainable centers of evangelization. The CMPs are liturgy, welcome, encounter, accompaniment, sending, and mission support.

**Objectives (Measures)** – The OPP facilitates the PPT in setting objectives that measure progress and help to quantify if the goals are being met. Objectives should be SMART – specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, and time bound.

**Critical Success Factors (CSFs) and Barriers** – The PPT identifies CSFs (things that must be in place to achieve the goals and/or objectives) – and barriers (those things that can prevent achievement of the goals and/or objectives). Subsequent strategies should overcome the barriers and create the conditions for the CSFs.

**Strategies** – The OPP facilitates the PPT in identifying specific initiatives that can be taken to achieve a goal and/or particular objective in support of the overall vision. A number of strategies will be developed for each goal.

**Priorities** – Once strategies are identified, they must be prioritized in light of capacity and available resources. Here the OPP helps the PPT discern priorities through prayer and discussion.

**Action Plan** – For each priority, an action plan is developed that details the steps, timeframe, people, and resources needed to implement it. The action plan is produced and executed by a “champion” – someone identified by the PPT as being responsible for that priority.

**Monitoring Plan** – Work on the action plans must be monitored for progress. The monitoring plan establishes a framework for regular communication throughout the year on the implementation of the priorities and any barriers or new directions that have been identified in the process.

**Make Disciples** – As the strategies are implemented, God-willing, even more disciples are made at the pastorate!