



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Feb. 8, 2023

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ARCHDIOCESE PUBLICLY RELEASES SECOND DRAFT MODELS FOR ALL THINGS NEW

From Fr. Chris Martin, Vicar for Strategic Planning

"We are now more than a year into the All Things New process and we are exactly where we need to be.

All Things New is a multiyear process created to evaluate the effectiveness of the Catholic Church in the Archdiocese of St. Louis in proclaiming the Gospel and will identify opportunities for improvement and renewal within all parishes, schools and curia offices and agencies.

From the very beginning of All Things New we have been asking the question "Which communities does it make most sense to have come together in light of demographic shifts, evangelization and social outreach efforts, resources, and priest availability?"

The first round of draft models for planning areas was designed to gather feedback about which communities it made sense to bring together under one pastor. We heard from more than 70,000 people through the DMI Surveys, hosted nearly 350 Listening Sessions at 178 parishes in the Archdiocese, surveyed 18,000 parish school parents, administrators, teachers, staff, community partners, and volunteers, compiled sacramental, financial and demographic statistics for every parish and school, met with community, civic and business organizations, held focus groups, and had conversations at the deanery and parish levels, both in groups and one on one.

The All Things New planning committee, which includes priests, deacons, parish life coordinators, lay leaders and religious from across the Archdiocese, has reviewed the parish feedback summaries, parish workbooks and financial data of every parish in the Archdiocese of St. Louis. Using that information, the All Things New planning committee has refined the first set of draft models shared in the Fall. The second draft models reflect the input received across the Archdiocese from the priests, deacons, religious, key parish leaders, and the lay faithful and are posted on allthingsnew.archstl.org. The models show the Archdiocese being reshaped from 178 individual parish pastorates into 88 pastorates in order to best serve the lay faithful. A pastorate is a community that is under the pastoral care of one pastor and pastoral team.

In some cases, an individual parish may remain as its own pastorate, but may have to adapt some of its ministries and Mass times due to priest availability and coordinate with other parishes, ensuring vibrant evangelization and social outreach initiatives. In other cases, it may be that two or more parishes remain financially independent of each other but will become a new pastorate sharing one pastor and pastoral team. Finally, in some cases it may be that parishes merge their resources together and become a new pastorate under one pastor and pastoral team. Only after we have discerned which communities ought to come together as a new pastorate can we begin the case-by-case examination of which structure is most prudent for each existing parish. No matter the chosen structure, some worship sites may no longer be used in the future. The planning committee has analyzed each pastorate to ensure each one has the resources to sustain a new territory and model.

The next step is to gather feedback on the second draft models. Outlined below is the process:

- We have emailed a survey to all priests and Key Parish Leaders and are asking parishioners to provide any feedback they have to their pastor and Key Parish Leaders by Wednesday, February 15.
- Pastors or Key Parish Leaders will submit final feedback on behalf of their parishes via a survey by Friday, February 17.

- This will be the last set of draft models and the final portion of feedback gathered in order to enable the archbishop to make a well-informed, discerned decision for the spiritual well-being of the Archdiocese, looking at the feedback of the people and the needs of the Archdiocese.

Archbishop Rozanski will take all the information received and announce the plan for the Archdiocese of St. Louis on Pentecost (May 28), 2023.

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[The Archdiocese of St. Louis](#) was established in 1826 and has grown to currently serve more than 491,000 Catholics in 11 Missouri counties. As Catholics in the Archdiocese of St. Louis, we strive to fulfill our Baptismal calling by prayer and worship, teaching and sharing our faith, serving others, and fostering unity in diversity.