

MISSIONARY LEADER

Update

**Archdiocese of Milwaukee
Office of Missionary Planning & Leadership**

The *Update* is sent monthly via email. It is designed to inspire, inform, engage, and empower leaders in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee so that they are equipped for mission-driven/data-informed planning and leadership.



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Change in Ministry Thank You for Your Support

By Susan Skibba, Project and MissionInsite Coordinator
Missionary Planning and Leadership



For the past six years, I have served at the Office for Missionary Planning and Leadership and the Office for Worship. Over those years, I have worked with so many of you in different capacities. However, as of April 5, the focus of my ministry is changing. I will still be with the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, but will now be serving with Catholic Cemeteries at St. Adalbert Cemetery.

I want to thank you all for the time we have spent together. This past year has been rough, but all of us will work together, each in our own capacity, to help our parishes and the Catholic faith thrive. Although I will no longer be involved with APC, MissionInsite, the Appendices, 15-year Parish Summary Reports, and other reports and projects (on the Missionary Planning and Leadership side), I know that you are in capable hands with Rich Harter and Laura Engel.

Thank you for our time together, the many emails and phone calls, and my best wishes for all you do.

New Team Member - Rosalita Villa

The Office of Missionary Planning and Leadership is happy to welcome Rosalita Villa as our new Administrative Assistant! Rosalita will be working with Laura Engel and Rich Harter to serve your needs and answer your questions. Rosalita is fluent in both English and Spanish, so we look forward to working with our Hispanic Parishes in new and deeper ways!



Rosalita will introduce herself further in next month’s newsletter. For now, feel free to welcome and contact her at villar@archmil.org or 414-758-2217.

Success in Post-Pandemic Planning Efforts!

By Laura Engel, Associate Director
Missionary Planning and Leadership

He is risen, indeed!

I wish you a very blessed Easter season and hope you had the opportunity to celebrate Easter Sunday with those you haven't been able to see very often, or at all in the past year, given the COVID pandemic.

Easter presents a season of prolonging the joy of the resurrection, overcoming gloom and darkness, and providing light of hope. The Springtime of Easter is a time for new beginnings, a time to plan for life in a new way.

As the gloom and darkness fade, we contemplate how we can share new beginnings with others, including those who weren't able to attend Easter Mass celebrations, or haven't returned to Mass yet. You might be strategizing plans for your post-pandemic come back to Mass, contemplating the two questions Rich Harter posed in our January newsletter to help rebuild your parish community:

“What new things will we do to build and rebuild communal relationships of trust, belonging, and friendship?”

“What new things will we do to help people discover and rediscover that Jesus is Good News for their lives?”

But there may be a bigger question looming. How do I begin planning to answer these questions? One way is to review or revisit the Disciple Maker Index survey results for your parish.

Results for the survey, administered last spring, present a high-level view of personal observations, attitudes, and desires of participating parish members, and can provide your parish insight into opportunities for mission and vision, spiritual growth for parishioners, and engaging in making disciples.

St. James Parish in Franklin, after reviewing their survey results, identified adult faith formation as one major opportunity for growth. For many parishioners, the weekly homily had become the primary (and in some cases the only) learning experience for ongoing adult faith formation. The challenge was to expand and build on previous adult formation programs at the parish. The survey was a clear affirmation of this initiative.

“DMI results support our ideas of how to grow faith formation,” said Fred Hang, Pastoral Associate at St. James. “During this past year there has been an increase in people signing up for Zoom sessions compared to in-person sessions of the past,” Hang said. “Perhaps the isolation of COVID contributed to the hunger for



more connection and faith-building so we took this opportunity to build upon this silver lining. The numbers keep increasing.”

The use of technology was definitely a factor in the growth he witnessed. “With COVID, we needed to learn how to Zoom. Many were reluctant to use it and had fear of technology. But by fall, more people were used to using Zoom and found a comfort level with it.” Last fall, St. James had 20 people sign up for a bible study session and that number increased by more than a third for the Lenten series this spring on how to live the Gospel. “I think we’ll have to keep the Zoom possibility,” Hang explained.

Hang also discovered that parishioners had a great interest in social teachings and social justice. With Zoom sessions, he was able to book national and international speakers very economically, without having to pay their travel expenses. Other topics of Zoom sessions have included marriage enrichment and grief and loss.

He follows up with past participants to find out what they learned and what they got out of the sessions. After the series on marriage enrichment, he learned that nearly 90% of participants came from outside the parish.

Post pandemic, parishioners are eager to resume “Lunch, Laugh & Learn” sessions - designed for retired parishioners. Held midday during the week, it is an opportunity for shared feasting (potluck) and the lighter side of Gospel living. “The month of May will bring our first in-person adult formation gathering in over a year with “A Pilgrimage with Mary.” This four-part series involves video, small group discussion, and devotions at our outdoor shrine,” explained Hang.

Any challenges? “Now the big thing is marketing, so people know the programs are here.” Hang plans on incorporating the St. James website and Facebook page in his promotions.

If you want more information on reviewing your DMI survey results, getting started with your post-pandemic planning, demographic profiling with MissionInsite, or other planning efforts, contact us! You can reach me at engell@archmil.org.

Planning Stats At a Glance

Requests for parish DMI survey results review/analysis	44
Requests for support in planning and leadership	36
MissionInsite reports generated	164

* Totals reflect activity in the past six months.

Talk Back Question

What successes have you experienced in your post-pandemic planning? Have you identified low-hanging fruit and reaped the benefits from it?



We hope to hear from you. Email your answer, however short or long, to planningcouncils@archmil.org.

NOTE: If any answers are posted in a future issue, no source will be listed. All answers are anonymous.

Talk Back March 2021 Response

Here is the response to last month's question regarding the hard questions to ask.

I contend that the traditional model of the local parish and school is not working. Even though we have graduates from these parish schools, we do not see very many of them in church. We obviously are not teaching what is needed to obtain attachment to this faith. I am not anti-school but, at this time we need to look at other alternatives.



We appreciate all comments!

Highlights from March 13, 2021 Archdiocesan Pastoral Council (APC) Meeting

The Council met with Archbishop Jerome ListECKI via Zoom. These were the items discussed and the actions taken.

- **Gift of Sunday** – Pete Burds (burdsp@archmil.org), Director of Evangelization, Susan McNeil (mcneils@archmil.org) Lay Ministry/Synod Implementation Director, and Randy Nohl (nohlr@archmil.org), Director of Synod Implementation, presented the new initiative that stresses the importance of Sunday and how to live it. This work was started before COVID but took on greater importance with the pandemic. The main outcomes of the initiative include: 1) return to Sunday, 2) renewal in the understanding of the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist, and 3) rededication of Sunday as a day of worship, reset, and renewal. Check out the [Gift of Sunday web page](#) to download The Gift of Sunday Theological Reflection and Personal Study and Group Discussion Guides. Other information and sources are also available there. The initiative will be a movement covering several years. A rough timeline is in place through 2024. We want people to see Christ as the center of life. The core of discipleship is to live Jesus throughout your life, integrate your faith into your daily life so that the faithful: 1) see in a new way everything via Jesus, 2) live the gift of Sunday, and

3) live as a joyful disciple of Christ.

- **Synod Anniversary Date** – The date has changed and will now be Friday, October 22, 2021, and will be repeated on Saturday, October 23. Bishop Hying is confirmed for October 23.
- **APC** – This advisory body has a significant voice. Combined with the Priest Council, it provides advice to the archbishop. It has been the creator of movements within the archdiocese, including the Evangelization Summit, which in turn became the source for the synod. Its ideas generate forward-thinking.
- **Seminary** – Six transitional deacons and four priests will be ordained this year. Currently of the 54 men in the seminary, 44 are for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. Our number is much higher than other larger dioceses. We have a richness of faith in the archdiocese that we must foster, engender and embrace so that we do not lose it.
- **Statue** – A 9-foot bronze statue of Mary Mother of the Church will be placed in front of the Pastoral Center in June.

The next meeting of the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council will be held on Saturday, June 19, 2021.

MissionInsite Musings - ComparativeInsite Report

By Susan Skibba, Project and
MissionInsite Coordinator
Missionary Planning and Leadership



Data to information to knowledge
– *This is what MissionInsite can do
for you.*

With the talk of post-pandemic planning and using other resources, such as the DMI, now may be the time when you want to run a ComparativeInsite report. This is the only MissionInsite report that needs the congregants (parish or school) plotted on the map before you can run it. The report offers a broad comparison of the demographic profile of a defined area. It can show you if your ministries fit the people in your area or if there is some area that you may want to explore for a future ministry.

If you need a refresher on how to plot your congregants or run the report, check out the [instructions](#) on our [MissionInsite web page](#). These and other instructions can be accessed by using the drop-down under PowerPoint Instructions.

If you want help with analyzing a report, contact Laura Engel, Association Director, at either 414-769-3354 or engell@archmil.org.

Office Services of Missionary Planning and Leadership

The Office of Missionary Planning and Leadership serves parishes in the following ways:

- Provide vision and training for centering a parish on mission
- Provide training to equip leaders for missionary leadership
- Provide coaching on organizational best practices and team-building
- Provide strategic missionary planning for parishes
- Walk parishes through the Building Commission proxy process
- Provide parishes with MissionInsite “Big Data” reports
- Walk with leaders through mergers, multi-parish configurations, and transitions
- Provide norms for parishes on Pastoral Councils, Finance Councils, and Parish Committees
- Provide manuals and training to Pastoral Councils, Finance Councils, and Trustees

The Office of Missionary Planning and Leadership serves the archdiocese in the following ways:

- Articulate and implement a parish and school plan for Post-2020
- Coordinate the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council

Status of Updated Pastoral & Finance Council Appendices

As of April 7, 59 parishes have submitted both updated appendices, and 17 parishes have submitted one of the two Council appendices. **KUDOS to all who have already submitted their appendices.**

Reminder: *All parishes* are required to submit updated Pastoral Council and Finance Council appendices. This is an important responsibility of the parish. **Every parish is a public juridic person, therefore, every parish is mandated by canon law** to have a finance council.

Please return your updated pastoral and finance council appendices to the Office for Missionary Planning and Leadership as **soon as possible. At the beginning of May, we will be calling parishes that do not have these required documents on file.**

Important to note:

- **Use the updated template**, which has the updated Archdiocesan logo.
- Multi-parish communities may have a combined Pastoral Council and, therefore, a combined Pastoral Council Appendix. However, since a finance council is mandated by law, each finance council needs a Finance Council appendix.

To access the appendix templates, go to the [Finance Council and Pastoral Council Norms web page](#).

Submit your appendices as soon as possible to Rosalita Villa, Administrative Assistant. Contact her with any questions at either villar@archmil.org or 414-758-2217.

MissionInsite Demographics Data Updated

If you are a MissionInsite user, you may have received an email from ACS Technologies, but we want everyone aware of the information. MissionInsite has refreshed their Address List data, provided by Epsilon.

Households	Total Cost	Per Record Cost
500 Minimum	\$ 50.00	10.00c
1,000	\$ 92.70	9.27c
2,500	\$ 231.18	9.13c
5,000	\$ 413.50	8.27c
10,000	\$ 760.00	7.60c
25,000	\$1,850.00	7.40c
50,000	\$3,635.00	7.27c

Missionary Planning and Leadership's Resources

- The Office of Missionary Planning and Leadership is here to help you. Be sure to take advantage of the many resources that are already on the Archdiocesan website. Check out the [Missionary Planning and Leadership web page](#) and then click on the box that can best help you.
- [Strategic Missionary Planning](#) includes PowerPoint presentations, deanery maps and reports, such as Mass Attendance, Parish Baptism, and more.
- [MissionInsite Data](#) includes PowerPoint instructions, data use and analysis articles, and PowerPoint presentations.
- [Transition and Organization Health Coaching](#) includes a merger manual, future parish models and future parish leadership models.
- [Pastoral Councils, Norms, and Guidelines](#) includes the Pastoral and Finance Councils norms, appendices, parish councils manual, parish trustee manual, parish commissions and committees manual, as well as Missionary Leader Update, and more.
- [Archdiocesan Pastoral Council](#) includes the eleven deaneries, as well as information on the next parish deanery meeting and past deanery reports.
- [Post-2020 Planning](#) includes articles written by Rich Harter to assist you with the Post-2020 planning process.

When you have a chance, check out these pages and resources.

You can log into MissionInsite to purchase an address list (see our [instructions](#) on the [MissionInsite web page](#)) or you can order an address list by sending an email to misupport@acst.com with the following information. Please include as much detail as possible.

- The denominational agency your church is associated with (if applicable)
- Your church/parish name and city
- The geography for which you'd like to pull this address list from
- Specific filters you need to apply to your list - [Click to view available filters.](#)
- The correct billing address and bill-to information

MissionInsite does not provide mailing labels or postcards. However, you will receive a .csv file to use.

Missionary Planning and Leadership Contact Information

For questions or to request services, please contact:

Rich Harter, Director of Missionary Planning and Leadership harterr@archmil.org, 414-758-2215

Laura Engel, Associate Director of Missionary Planning and Leadership engell@archmil.org, 414-769-3354

Rosalita Villa, Administrative Assistant villar@archmil.org, 414-758-2217

Know that you can always come to us.



Contact Rosalita Villa at villar@archmil.org if you know someone who would be interested in receiving the *Missionary Leader Update*.

