



**St. Anthony of the Desert Parish, Taylor Mill, KY**  
Pastoral Plan January 2024

**Survey Results and Parish Priorities**

Last year, our parish, along with all parishes of the Diocese of Covington, participated in the Disciple Maker Survey to learn from you, the members of this parish, who we are as a parish, what grounds us in our faith life, and what we act on personally and as a community, so that we may develop parish priorities and goals to grow ever stronger in our faith life. As promised, we are sharing with you today key information from the DMI survey.

**Our Demographics:**

129 individuals responded to survey. This is about 49% of adults who attend weekly Mass.

St. Anthony is the primary place of worship for 95% of respondents

- Ethnicity: 77% identified as Anglo, and 19% Hispanic
- Gender: 46% Male, 54% Female
- Age: 22% are age up to 45; 35% are age 46-65 and 37% are over age 65
- Marital Status: 78% are married; 9% widowed, 11% single
- Other:
  - o 50% have belonged to parish for 20+ years; 14% less than 2 years
  - o 25% have school age children, and 50% of those with children attend Catholic school

The survey also identified areas of high or low agreement: whether parishioners would recommend our parish to a friend, whether the parish was helping them grow spiritually, what values were important, and what were our areas of need or strength.

**Our Strengths**

- I would recommend my pastor to a friend: 63% strongly agree, 34% agree (This is a chief driver and our greatest strength!)
- Belief that Scripture is the Word of God: 74% strongly agree, 19% agree
- Belief that Eucharist is the body/blood of Christ: 73% strongly agree, 19% agree

**Our Opportunities**

- My parish equips me to have conversations about my faith with family and friends by growing my confidence in Church teachings so I can answer other's questions: 6% strongly agree, 55% agree
- My parish helps me grow spiritually by offering music that deepens my desire to participate more fully in the Sunday liturgy: 14% strongly agree, 48% agree
- My parish helps me grow spiritually by forming me as a disciple of Christ: 19% strongly agree, 64% agree
- Frequency of the Sacrament of Reconciliation: 37% never; 48% once or twice a year.

**Parish Priorities**

The envisioning team, consisting of Fr. Ivan Kalamuzi, Cindy Fischer, Monica France, Laura Keener, Sean Kunath, Pete Manczyk, and Walter Tomas met multiple times in person and online over the course of 6 months to discern Parish priorities based upon the information received from the survey. The team identified 3 priorities for our Parish that we will pursue for the remainder of the With One Heart initiative. Each of the priorities has 2 or 3 goals that we think we lead us towards achieving these priorities. The goals are specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, and time bound so we may track our progress throughout the year. They are:



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### Increase Personal Prayer

- Provide 10 -12 additional opportunities for confession in our parish by 1/1/2025
- Organize 10 opportunities for communal spiritual practices outside of Mass by 1/1/2025
- Organize 12 opportunities to learn how to pray, mediate, and practice discernment of spirits by 1/1/2025

### Create a Welcoming Community

- Organize 3 cultural exchange throughout the year between Anglo and Hispanic communities by July 1, 2025
- Hold quarterly joint worship services blending Anglo and Hispanic cultural elements by July 10, 2025

### Increase Confidence in Church Teaching

- Initiate 10-12 catechesis opportunities open to all parishioners by 1/2/2025
- Engage and training 7 or more volunteers to be involved in the delivery of faith formation classes/programs by July 1, 2025
- Incorporate Catholic teaching into parish communication platforms at the beginning of each liturgical season by Lent, 2024.

### **Moving Forward**

#### **Implementation Teams**

The Envisioning has finished its work with regard to this diocesan initiative. The next step in this process is to assemble an Implementation team for each priority to execute several strategies to meet each goal. Each team will consist of 3 to 5 members who will meet regularly for the next phase of this process (about 2 years). The strategies outlined above are merely a starting point for these teams. As they meet, they may discern more appropriate methods to meet the goals we have provided, which is their prerogative. However, any new initiatives proposed during this implementation period must fit within one of the priorities identified by the Envisioning team.

#### **Oversight Team**

One leader for each priority will join with Father Ivan as the Oversight Team. Their job will be to make sure the teams stay on track, measuring progress and milestones, and reporting to Parish Council updates and seeking guidance as needed.

We know we have among us individuals with lots of talent and skills; we are asking you to share those to help St. Anthony Parish grow into a more engaged community, learning and growing in faith together. We ask you to read through our work and prayerfully consider what you can do to contribute to this all-important work.

#### **Conclusion:**

We hope you are excited about this vision for our parish. We want you to participate in the work for each priority. While a lot of work has been done, this is in many ways just the beginning. Ultimately, achieving our goals will require each of us — working together, participating in ministries, opening our hearts, sharing our gifts, living the faith in new ways, and reclaiming the sacramental life Christ gave for our own salvation.

**Let us move forward joyfully — With One Heart.**