

## Pastoral Planning Timeline

- **November 2013:** Pope Francis' apostolic exhortation: *Evangelii Gaudium* (*Joy of the Gospel*), serves as the impetus for the formation of a pastoral planning office in the Archdiocese of Hartford (AOH).
- **December 16, 2013:** Archbishop Leonard P. Blair installed as the 5<sup>th</sup> Archbishop of the Hartford Archdiocese.
- **July 2014:** Office of Pastoral Planning established.
- **July 2014:** Strategic planning offsite convened with Archbishop Blair, select AOH Cabinet members and members of the Pastoral Planning Office.
- **August/September 2014:** One-on-one interviews conducted with pastors and parishioners of "linked" or merged parishes.
- **October 2014:** Four pastoral planning Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) analyses facilitated for employees of the AOH.
- **November 2014:** Pastoral planning SWOT analysis facilitated for deacons of the AOH.
- **December 2014:** Presbyteral Convocation convened in Mystic, CT, during which the Pastoral Planning Office, its members, mission and vision for the future were introduced.
- **February 2015:** Archbishop Blair writes a parish bulletin insert for the faithful of the AOH that introduced the pastoral planning initiative in terms of why, what and when.
- **March/April 2015:** *Your Voice Counts* on-line and hard copy pastoral planning survey in English, Spanish and Polish distributed to 180,000 households (yields ~ 20K responses).
- **April 2015:** Pastoral planning article by Archbishop Leonard P. Blair: *Repositioning for a Spiritually Rich and Vibrant Future*, published in the Catholic Transcript.
- **March 2015:** 16 pastoral planning focus groups conducted to impart information and supplement *Your Voice Counts* pastoral planning survey data.
- **May 2015:** SWOT analysis facilitated for religious serving in the AOH.
- **June 2015:** PartnersEdge LLC consulting retained to assist in pastoral planning data collections and analysis.

- **October 2015:** AOH Pastoral Council formed.
- **October 2015:** Central Service Offices of the Archdiocese (CSO) reorganization process begins as internal initiative to support pastoral planning.
- **November 2015:** Presbyteral Convocation (in Stamford, CT) - PartnersEdge introduces pastoral planning methodology and goals.
- **January 2016:** Archdiocesan Strategic Plan created, which can be found on the StewardsForTomorrow website, the official site of pastoral planning.
- **February 2016:** Presbyteral gathering with PartnersEdge convened to review the state of the Archdiocese: the current reality, key trends and strategic priorities.
- **April 2016:** Two SWOT analyses facilitated for Black and Hispanic/Latino Catholics.
- **June 2016:** Priest, Religious and lay facilitators selected and trained to conduct deanery meetings.
- **June 2016:** CSO reorganization implemented.
- **July/August 2016:** 17 priest and laity deanery meetings convened to share initial pastoral planning data and analysis by PartnersEdge LLC.
- **August 2016:** Pastoral Planning Committee membership and charter are updated.
- **September 2016:** stewardsfortomorrow.org website is created as a resource for parishioners to view the data collected about each parish.
- **October 2016:** Meetings convened to discuss apostolate to Polish and Hispanic/Latino Catholics.
- **December 2016:** Stewards for Tomorrow Newsletter published and sent to 192,000 registered Catholic households.
- **January/February 2017:** Pastoral Planning article: *Where Two or Three are Gathered - A Journey of Hope*, published in Catholic Transcript Magazine
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- **February/March 2017:** Convened 8 deanery meetings with deans and pastors to present and solicit feedback on the most current pastoral plan.
- **March 2017:** Pastoral Planning article: *Jesus was a Change Agent*, published in Catholic Transcript Magazine.

- **March/April 2017:** Convened 8 deanery meetings with parish and finance council representatives, trustees and parochial vicars to present and solicit feedback on the most current pastoral plan.
- **April 2017:** Pastoral Planning article: *Empathy Tames the Emotional Roller Coaster of Pastoral Planning*, published in Catholic Transcript Magazine.
- **April 2017:** Archbishop Leonard P. Blair's pastoral planning video message to the faithful of the Archdiocese posted on [stewardsfortomorrow.org](http://stewardsfortomorrow.org) and Facebook
- **April/May 2017:** Pastoral Planning Podcast and Saints for Tomorrow Survey are produced to update the public about pastoral planning and solicit more participation; "Archbishop's Corner" broadcasts featuring information about pastoral planning on WJMJ continue.
- **May 2017:** Pastoral Planning article: *And the Two Shall Become One*, article published in Catholic Transcript Magazine.
- **May 2017:** Pastoral plan and priest assignments announced.
- **June 29, 2017:** Pastoral Planning for parishes take effect, as well as, new priest assignments.

**What are the basics of the pastoral plan?**

As of June 29, 2017, there will be 127 parishes in the Archdiocese of Hartford, instead of the current 212.

68 parishes will remain as they are;

144 parishes will be involved in mergers resulting in 59 new parishes. The mergers will involve unions of two to six parishes.

186 church buildings will remain open.

26 church buildings will close, inasmuch as regularly scheduled Masses will no longer be held in them.