



Disciples on the Way **PARISH MISSION PLANNING**

What is Parish *Mission* Planning?

Innovative and enduring planning process designed to continuously improve our ability

To be missionary disciples striving to lead all people to the Kingdom of God.

Driven by living out our common mission

To foster households and communities of discipleship through the mission and ministry of the Catholic Church.

Begins by asking

“How do we impact the communities in which we dwell?”

Why are we doing this?

As a continuation of Bishop Ricken’s *Disciples on the Way*, Parish Mission Planning is designed

To align and mobilize our parishes, schools and ministry efforts with our diocesan vision, mission, and cultural values.

Parish Mission Planning begins a new era of planning designed

To inspire cultural change at all parishes and schools in how we fundamentally approach “planning.”

At the end of the day it is about

Changing minds and hearts in how we think about planning and our mission!

With Jesus Christ and through the mission of the Church, we move:

- from scarcity to abundance
- from maintenance to mission
- from programs to people
- from inward to outward focus

Parish Mission Planning Resource
Webpage and Workshop Registration:
[https://www.gbdioc.org/
parishmissionplanning](https://www.gbdioc.org/parishmissionplanning)

Introduction

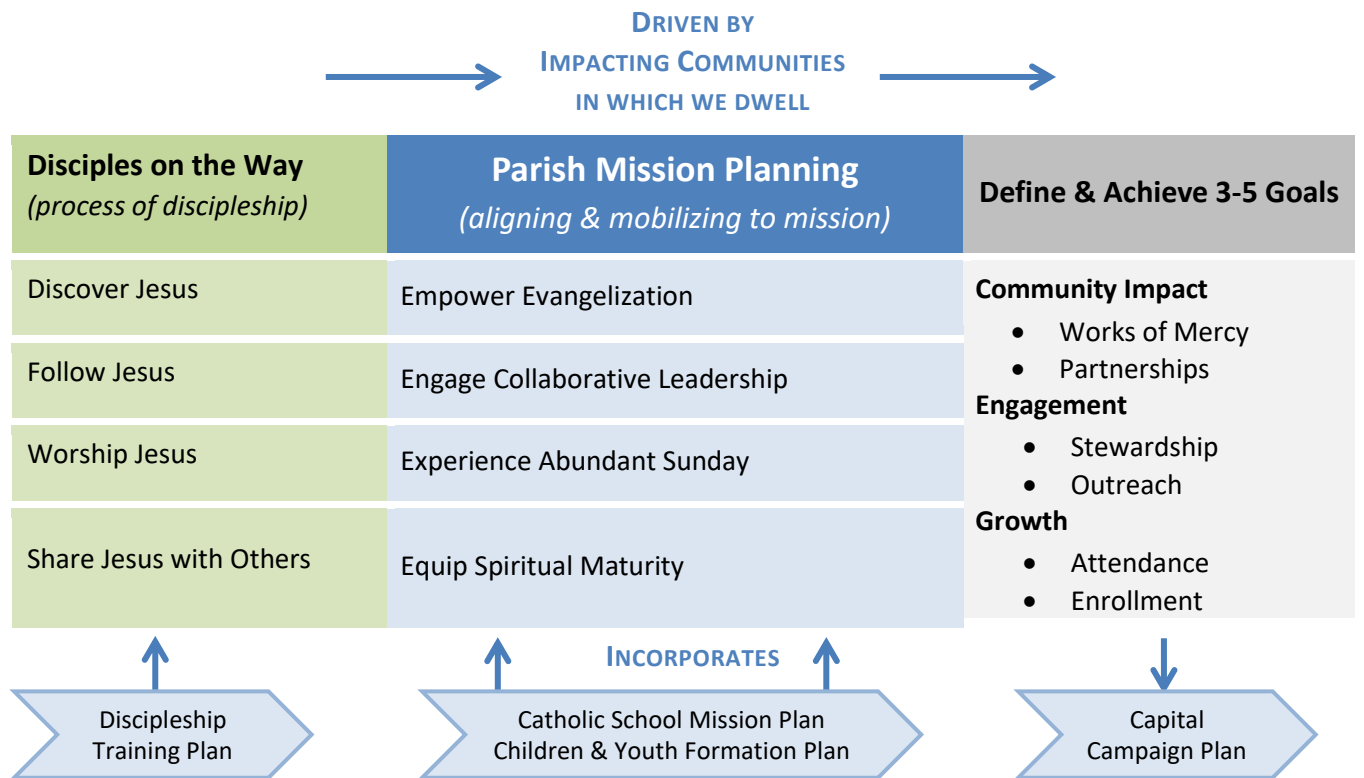
“One of the great challenges facing the Church in this generation is to foster in all the faithful a sense of personal responsibility for the Church’s mission and to enable them to fulfill that responsibility as missionary disciples, as a leaven of the Gospel in our world.”

– Pope Francis, Apostolic Journey to the United States

Aligning and Mobilizing to Mission

VISION	MISSION
We are missionary disciples striving to lead all people to the Kingdom of God.	As friends and followers of Jesus, we are devoted to fostering households and communities of discipleship through the mission and ministry of the Catholic Church.

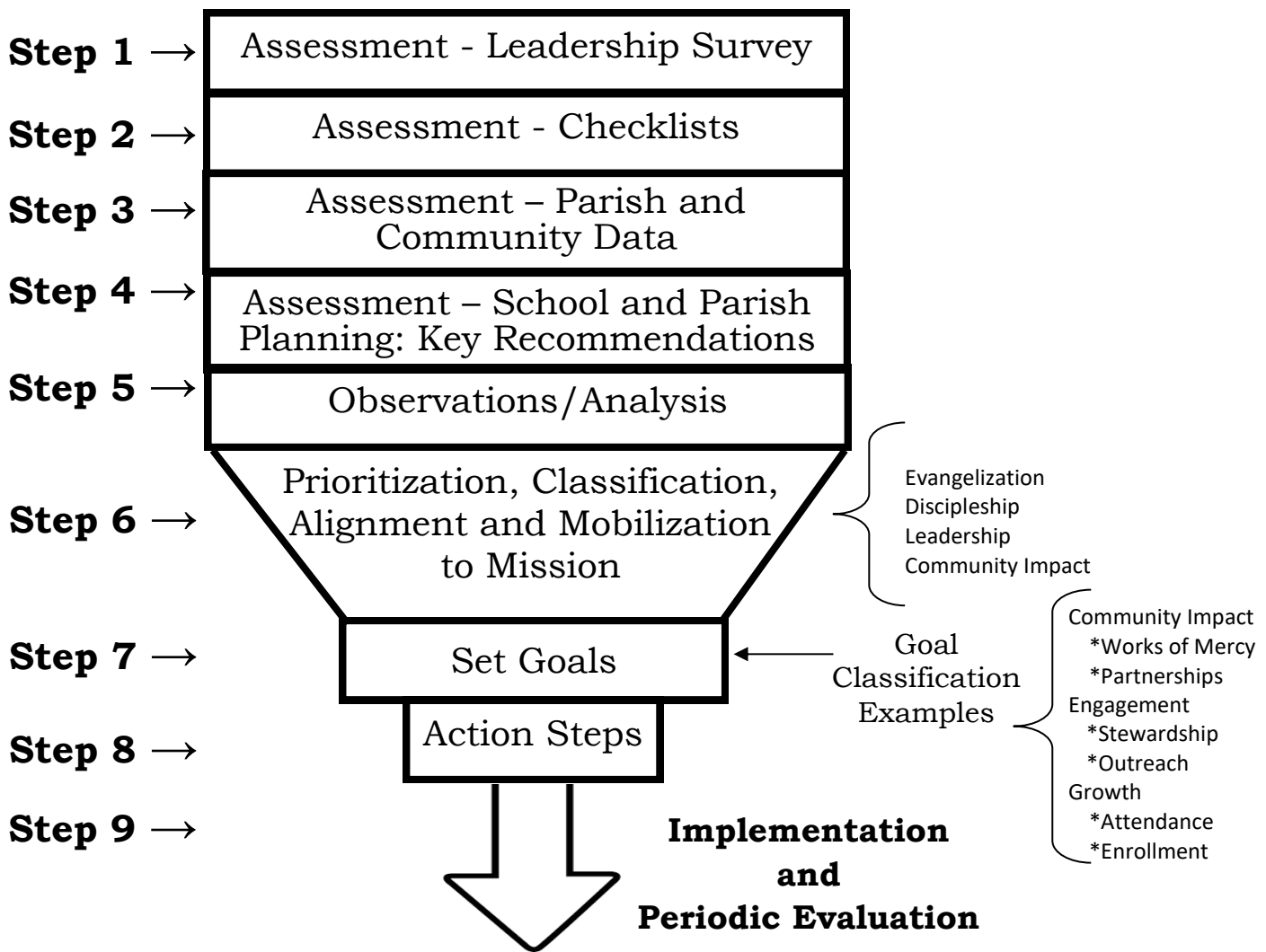
Disciples on the Way, launched in 2014 with Bishop Ricken’s “Teach My People to Pray,” and the ensuing Diocesan Vision and Mission established in 2016, is a response to our responsibility as missionary disciples to be a leaven of the Gospel of Jesus in the communities in which we dwell.



Parish Mission Planning, as a continuation of *Disciples on the Way*, is a process to bring all of us together with a common mission and vision focused on missionary discipleship as we continue to encounter Jesus, draw close to Him in prayer, accompany one another, and reach out to others in our workplaces, neighborhoods, and communities by:

- Providing a repeatable framework for one common parish and school planning process, with an emphasis on New Evangelization and Missionary Discipleship;
- Incorporating Catholic school mission planning, children and youth faith formation planning, and capital campaign mission planning into one seamless process;
- Impacting communities in which parishes and schools reside;
- Moving minds, hearts and planning from *scarcity* (maintenance) to *abundance* (growth);
- Incorporating our mission values: *explore potential, connect to inspire, embrace people’s hearts, empowered to act, nurture abundant life and growth.*

Nine Steps to a Successful Parish Mission Plan - CHART



Guidelines for Selecting your Parish Mission Planning Team

Team Facilitator

This person will be responsible (and has experience) preparing meeting agendas, assigning a scribe to take meeting notes, delegating certain tasks, and managing/leading the meetings.

Tech Representative

This person has competent computer skills who will be trained at the PMP workshop on how to collect various parish and community data using MissionInsite, an online demographic analysis tool. This information will be key in developing your parish mission plan.

Communication Liaison

This person will communicate with the Parish Mission Planning Team and the Parish Community through multiple communications (may also be the scribe).

School Representative (if applicable)

This person will represent the school or the school system associated with the parish.

Parish Mission Planning Members

The diversity of the team should reflect the cultural and demographics of the parish/school, starting with the pastor/pastoral leader and including the following recommendations:

- One person from the parish pastoral council or secretary trustee (required)
- One person from the school board/council or the school principal OR one person from the associated school system planning team (required)
- One person from the parish finance council or treasurer trustee (required)
- One young adult, under the age of 35
- Parish DRE (the person who best understands and is involved with religious education, sacramental preparation and youth ministry)
- One parent from parish RE
- One parent from the school (direct or associated system school)
- One person from the community at large who is not fully active in parish life
- One senior citizen (over 65)
- One Hispanic member (if applicable)

Next Steps

1. Identify your PMP Core Team:
 - Facilitator | Tech Representative | Communication Liaison | School Rep. (if applicable)
2. Register yourself and core team for one PMP Training Session.
 - **Go this link:** <https://www.gbdioc.org/parish-life/parish-mission-planning> and click on “Register” under the PMP Core Team Workshops
3. Identify the rest of the mission planning team members
 - Based on team selection criteria.
4. Schedule your first Parish Mission Planning Team Meeting.
5. Participate in a Discipleship Experience.
 - TBD – email to follow summer of 2019 with more details

Common Questions

1. When do I need to start?
 - Refer to training and implementation plan
2. What is the time commitment?

Over the course of 8 – 12 weeks, following are expected time commitment levels.

 - Planning Team Members
 - i. Five to six meetings, 2-hours each (10 – 12 hours)
 - ii. 3-hour Discipleship experience
 - Core Team (Facilitator, Tech Person, Communications Liaison, School Rep.). In addition to the team members time:
 - i. 2 Hour Training Session
 - ii. Approximately 15-30 additional minutes associated to each meeting (2 – 4 hours)
3. How often should we meet?
 - Typically every other week, but it is your schedule – there are options
4. How many people do I really need on the planning team?
 - Small or rural parish versus medium or large parish
5. What if I already have a parish plan?
 - Great! You will want to include existing plans
6. How many goals?
 - 3 – 5 with one being focused on community impact
7. Who has the final approval? – the Pastor/Pastoral Leader.
8. **Who and how do I contact for questions?**
 - **Email:** Pastserv@gbdioc.org
 - **Phone:** 920-272-8295

