



Diocese of Toledo STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE



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Want to help?

Contact the pillar leaders below to share your ideas.

Pillar 1

Bret Huntebrinker
at
bhuntebrinker@toledodiocese.org

Pillar 2

Bret Huntebrinker
at
bhuntebrinker@toledodiocese.org

Pillar 3

Kelly Donaghy at
kdonaghy@toledodiocese.org

Strategic Plan Updates

As mentioned in our last updates in May and November, the impacts of COVID-19 have affected us all and with fewer staff and financial resources available we reassessed the Strategic Plan priorities for this year, and are happy to share the following updates.

Pillar 1 - Supporting the Health of Parishes & Clergy

- We implemented the S.E.C.U.R.E. Program - A program to engage parishioners, grow digital communities, and recover lost offertory. The goal of S.E.C.U.R.E. was to provide parishes with free tools and real-time solutions to effectively engage the faith communities through various digital platforms and to open channels for virtual and alternative giving. This program featured weekly consultation with parishes for customized care, a toolkit with resources on online and virtual engagement, weekly webinars, and a weekly newsletter. A full report and best practices from parishes who participated can be found at https://drive.google.com/file/d/12V7aa7UvFCvzW5dzbSCq0p6reU_Z1P5F/view
- The Department of Discipleship and Family Life hired Andrew Reinhart as a Parish Life Coordinator. As a Parish Life Coordinator, Andrew is focusing on intentional planning by assisting parish leadership with formulating strategic plans, strengthening evangelization efforts, and providing pastoral care. Andrew has already begun working with several pastors on strategic planning within their parishes.

Pillar 2 - Invigorating Evangelization & Formation

- Through a generous donor in our diocese, we are able to offer any diocesan parish a free FORMED.org subscription. FORMED is a premier online platform filled with over 4,000 Catholic studies, movies, audio dramas, talks, e-books, and even cartoons for our children. FORMED has content from over 60 apostolates, including Augustine Institute, Ignatius Press, and the Knights of Columbus, with material that is professionally produced, engaging, and solid in its Catechesis. FORMED allows anyone from the parish to access the content. To signup, go to formed.org/signup, enter zip code, select parish, enter name and email address.
- We continue to compile and sort through the results of the evangelization survey and focus groups held around the diocese last year. These results allow us to prioritize and develop parish evangelization and formation best practices.

Pillar 3 - Invigorating Evangelization & Formation

- We are teaming up with Pillar 4 to evaluate a new platform, Franciscan at Home, to see if it has the capacity to support the needs of lay leadership training as well.
- We were hopeful that this platform can be augmented with business and leadership training. After meeting with a representative from Franciscan at Home, we learned that they have had this request from other dioceses and are in the process of creating content in this area. We may be able to pilot their initial offerings by the end of the fiscal year.



Pillar 4

Matt Daniels at
mdaniels@toldodiocese.org

Pillar 5

#5 Rodney Schuster at
rschuster@toldodiocese.org

Pillar 6

#6 Phil Renda at
prenda@toledodiocese.org

Pillar 4 - Strengthening Catholic Education

- The Pillar 4 Team is currently focusing on a second Known, Loved, Served in-person retreat for all teachers and principals in the Diocese on Monday, October 11. More information to follow.
- We continue to evaluate the best catechetical formation programs, and plan to have a new program in place and ready to roll out at the Principal Leadership Day on Wednesday, August 4, 2021.

Pillar 5 - Growing Catholic Charities Outreach & Advocacy

- “Action Committee” members met with Lima area Pastors on December 13, 2019, who expressed an interest to have Catholic Charities provide services. Areas of interest include counseling, prisoner re-entry/re-integration; immigration legal services; crisis navigation services; and possibly an emergency family shelter. Follow-up meetings with suggested community resources have taken place and are ongoing to further identify opportunities for service in Lima.
- “Action Committee” members had a Zoom conference with Pastors from Napoleon, Bryan, Defiance, on October 28, 2020. Unmet needs discussed included furniture ministry, legal immigration services, and homeless shelter. Community partners were also identified for the Committee to reach out to learn more at each location. A subsequent Zoom meeting was held with representatives from Mercy Health on November 12, 2020. They shared needs for Permanent Supportive Housing, prisoner re-entry/re-integration services and emergency shelter. Follow-up meetings with identified community resources are ongoing.

Pillar 6 - Developing Financial Resources

- We are enhancing ACA engagement and results
 - Conducted several new donor engagements via mailings, social media, and virtual events
 - Introduced a new parish goal program to be phased in over several cycles, starting with 2021 ACA
 - Created diocesan website to support the 2021 ACA (<https://www.acatoleado.org>)
- We are in the planning phase for a diocesan-wide capital campaign
 - Conducted update sessions with College of Consultors, Presbyteral Council and Finance Council, to inform and obtain feedback regarding the commencement of campaign planning
 - Engaged CCS in a Phase 1 diocesan capital campaign planning phase during the period March – July 2021
- We are establishing a fully functional development office
 - Planning to increase resources to focus on parish assistance, major giving, ACA, and planned giving
 - Implemented SECURE program to aid parishes with parishioner engagement and offertory support. A full report and best practice tools, including impacts of parishes who participated can be found [here](#) or at (https://drive.google.com/file/d/12V7aa7UvFCvzW5dzbSCq0p6reU_Z1P5F/view)