

ARCHDIOCESE OF DETROIT

Archdiocesan Restructuring



Phase 1: Kickoff and Discernment
AUGUST 2025 TO MARCH 2026

Phase 2: Listening and Refinement
APRIL 2026 TO DECEMBER 2026

Phase 3: Preparation for Implementation
JANUARY 2027 TO JUNE 2027

Phase 4: Implementation
JULY 2027 TO JULY 2028

Archdiocesan Restructuring Workbooks

WHERE DID THE DATA IN MY PARISH WORKBOOK COME FROM?

The information in each parish workbook has been reviewed by the priests at each parish for accuracy. Each parish was also offered the opportunity to add contextual information to aid in understanding the data presented as it relates to parish history and other factors of influence.

Some of the information in your parish workbook may be surprising or concerning to you. It's important to remember that this process is not reliant entirely on data alone. Many factors were considered by the priests who developed the models you'll see, including cultural considerations, different geographical areas, and the gifts or charisms of each parish community.

As of March 4, parish workbooks for each of the Archdiocese of Detroit's 209 parishes are available on restructuring.aod.org. Parishioners are invited to review the workbooks — which contain important historical, demographic, sacramental and financial data — as they prepare for their parish listening sessions.

Registration for parish listening sessions opened on March 14-15

REGISTER AT: [RESTRUCTURING.AOD.ORG](https://restructuring.aod.org)

WHAT'S NEXT?

Listening Sessions Begin

MID-APRIL TO MID-JUNE

- Register for your listening session (RSVP) at [RESTRUCTURING.AOD.ORG](https://restructuring.aod.org) or your local parish
- Attend one of two listening sessions at your parish
- Provide feedback of the draft models for your local parish and planning area

Register now for
SHAH Listening Sessions
Tuesday, May 19
Thursday, May 21
7 PM

What is a listening session?

Listening sessions are intended to gather feedback from parishioners about potential pastorate models — or groupings of parishes led by a pastor — involving their parish. Feedback during these listening sessions will be shared with the Core Planning Team and with Archbishop Weisenburger for his discernment.

How should I prepare for my parish listening session?

First, pray: The most important thing we can all be doing as we approach this time of listening in our parishes, is to pray. You can find a number of prayer opportunities on the Restructuring website or commit to including the process and everyone involved in your personal prayer time. Many parishes will host opportunities for communal prayer in the time leading up to your listening sessions, and we encourage you to join your faith communities to pray together when you are able.

Next, read your Parish Workbook which is posted to the Restructuring website. These workbooks provide historical information, demographics, data and trends about each parish in the Archdiocese of Detroit for the purpose of providing transparency and informing the archdiocesan restructuring process. The data in these workbooks has been reviewed and validated by the priests at each parish. Understanding this information helps each of us enter this time of discernment with a deeper sense of awareness around the need for restructuring.

The models shown at the listening sessions are not final decisions. They are a starting point to begin conversations and solicit the input of the lay faithful to better inform Archbishop Weisenburger's discernment process. To support this process, you can share feedback on what works or does not work in a given model, provide additional context about your community, or make note of collaboration points between parishes. What we shouldn't do is come to these sessions ready to argue that nothing should change about the way our parishes are structured. Contextual notes about your parish have also been shared in the Parish Workbooks.

Where did these models come from?

The models shown at your parish listening sessions began with the priests of the Archdiocese of Detroit — men who know you, who celebrate the sacraments with you every week, and who walk with your families in moments of joy and sorrow. They see the pastoral strengths of your parish, but they also see the broader realities: the number of priests we have, how they are currently assigned, attendance trends, financial pressures, staffing needs, and the demands of sustaining parish life across our Archdiocese. In January, they came together for three days, and entered into a time of prayer and collective discernment to develop these “first drafts” using their lived experiences and firsthand understanding of your parishes to discern these potential pastorates. But this was just one step in the process. Now it's your turn to review these models and give us your honest feedback.

What happens to all of the feedback, and how can I be sure that my feedback is taken into consideration?

Every comment shared through listening sessions, the online survey, and other avenues, will be read and prayerfully considered. From there, we will identify common themes and shared experiences from the people of the Archdiocese.

This listening is one important part of a broader discernment that also includes practical information such as Mass attendance,



“We have to place our trust in the Lord and the Holy Spirit that He's guiding us through this process,” Fr. Amore said. “No one is saying this is an easy process, and we have to be mindful of that, because our parish communities are really important to us.”

REV. MARIO AMORE | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF PARISH RENEWAL | ARCHDIOCESE OF DETROIT

demographic trends, priest availability, and parish finances. Listening helps deepen understanding and guide wise pastoral judgment, but it is not a vote or a mandate; decisions about future parish structures and collaboration will be made through prayerful discernment by the Archbishop, informed by the full picture of parish life across the Archdiocese of Detroit.

What if I can't attend? Is there a virtual option?

There is no virtual option for attending the listening sessions; however, there will still be time to review the models and share your feedback. Once all of the parishes in your planning area have completed their listening sessions, an online survey will be made available on the Restructuring website where all members of the lay faithful can review the models again and submit feedback, even if they were unable to attend a listening session in-person.

This survey will be sent to everyone who attends, and will also be shared by your parish and available on the Restructuring website. So even if you attend the listening session, if you get home and realize you have more feedback to share, you will have the opportunity, within a few weeks of your listening session, to respond to the online survey.

Our Goal for Restructuring

Develop a new pastorate model authored by the Holy Spirit that establishes a vibrant Catholic presence in every area of the Archdiocese of Detroit.



Flourishing Priests

Priests flourishing in their ministry to parishes and the greater community



Vibrant Parishes

Gospel renewal in our parishes and other ministry efforts



Mission Ready

Secure a vibrant future for the Church of Detroit