



Pathways TOWARD A THRIVING PARISH

An Initiative of

LOYOLA
UNIVERSITY
NEW ORLEANS

Loyola Institute
for Ministry
COLLEGE OF
NURSING & HEALTH

 **NCCL**
National Community
of Catechetical Leaders

Project Plan: 2025 - 2027

Parishes will identify a Parish Coordinator for the Project and develop a Leadership Team to participate in the workshops and guide the planning and implementation of your parish plan.

Parishes will be organized into regional cohorts of up to 10 parishes OR in national online cohorts of up to 10 parishes for participation in the workshop programs and monthly meetings.

Workshop #1 (Saturday In February or March 2025)

- Discover the vision and practices of Thriving Parishes.
- Learn how to grow as a team that listens to the needs, hungers, and hopes of your parish community.
- Explore how listening and discernment leads to action and building a thriving parish community.
- Apply: practice listening and discernment as a team,

Monthly Cohort Meetings with the Parish Coordinators

Workshop #2 (Saturday in May or June 2025)

- Reflect on the team's practice of listening and discernment: What fruits did you experience in this way of being church together?
- Identify the mission of the parish as it is being lived out today.
- Explore the life, mission, and ministries of the parish community: What are we seeing? What are we experiencing? Who are we serving? What are emerging needs?
- Explore characteristics and practices of thriving parishes.
- Apply: conduct parish-wide listening sessions with all ages to reflect on the life in our parish.

Monthly Cohort Meetings with the Parish Coordinators

Workshop #3 (Saturday in October or November 2025)

- Analyze the results of the listening sessions and discern the implications for the future of the parish: What surprised us? What or who has emerged? What is moving us toward action?
- Develop pathways for your parish to deepen the vitality and mission of the parish grounded in listening and discernment.
- Apply: Design pathways for strengthening the parish and pathways to address challenges which have emerged through the listening and discernment process.

Monthly Cohort Meetings with the Parish Coordinators

Workshop #4 (Saturday in February or March 2026)

- Share experiences of growth, challenge, and renewal.
- Design a multi-year action plan with strategies to implement the pathways toward thriving in the parish.
- Design a plan to engage all ages in discovering their gifts, abilities, and resources; and equipping them as individuals and teams for ministry and service in the parish and in the world.

Monthly Cohort Meetings with the Parish Coordinators throughout 2026

Workshop #5 (Saturday in February–April 2027): Continued Planning

- Discern and review the change your parish has experienced.
- Develop sustainability plans: Create strategies to maintain positive changes and continue growth beyond the project's end.

Monthly Cohort Meetings with the Parish Coordinators throughout 2027

