



# MINISTRY 2025

## DIOCESAN PASTORAL PLAN

### IN THE DIOCESE OF SIOUX CITY

## Diocese of Sioux City undergoes pastoral planning

The Diocese of Sioux City has released its DRAFT parish pastoral plan of Ministry 2025.

### “THE WHY”

*The why centers on reasons behind why a plan is needed.*

- Increasing diversity in our Catholic populations
- Increasing age of our traditional Catholic populations
- Decreasing attendance in most, but not all, of our parishes
- Catholic school system with decreasing enrollment, increasing costs and increasing pressure on parish finances
- Too many Sunday liturgies, in too many places, too sparsely attended
- From 2008 to 2015 Mass attendance has declined -27.4 %, while the total number of registered Catholic households declined -7.5 % across the diocese
- Diocesan-wide Mass attendance has decreased as a percentage of the total number of registered parishioners versus total attendees from 72 % in 2008 to 56 % in 2015
- Dramatic reduction in availability of priests at the parish level due mostly to retirements, even with an average of one ordination annually

### “THE WHAT”

*The what describes the hoped for outcome of the pastoral planning.*

- A. Healthy and vibrant diocese**
  - Growing Catholicity across the diocese
  - Increasing clarity of Catholic identity and beliefs



- Increasing enrollment in the Catholic schools
- Financial stability and growth
- Increasing vocations to priesthood and diaconate
- A developed pastoral plan with a comprehensive financial model called Ministry 2025
- B. Healthy and vibrant parishes and schools**
  - Increasing registered households
  - More than 60 percent of households attending Sunday Liturgy
  - More than 70 percent of households engaging in all forms of stewardship
  - Robust and energized evangelization
  - Robust and vibrant parish ministry
  - Financial and facilities health and stability
  - Each parish will develop a three-year cluster pastoral plan
  - Each Catholic school develops a five-year plan
- C. Healthy and vibrant priests and deacons**
  - Match of sacramental and pastoral work with the strengths of our priests
  - Average work week of 55 hours with delegation of management responsibilities
  - Time for daily prayer, reflection and spiritual health and development
  - Annual professional growth in capacities and skills
  - Three Masses per priest per weekend

### “THE WHO”

Father Brent C. Lingle was appointed director of Pastoral Planning for the Diocese of Sioux City on Oct. 6, 2015, by Bishop Walker Nickless.

Father Lingle also serves as Director of Worship, Episcopal Master of Ceremonies, Vice Chancellor, Special Assistant to the Diocesan Bishop and Director of the Propagation of the Faith. He was recently named to the board of overseers, the advisory board for Saint Meinrad (Ind.) Seminary and School of Theology.

A Siouxland native, Father Lingle was ordained for the diocese on June 16, 2007. His previous assignments were at Sacred Heart Parish in Spencer and Cathedral of the Epiphany, Sioux City. He continues to serve at the Cathedral with ministry in both English and Spanish Masses, as well as celebrating Mass in the Extraordinary Form of the Roman Rite (Latin Mass).

Prior to being named director of this process, Father Lingle was a member of a parish strategic planning committee made up of Father Ed Girres, chairman; Msgr. Mark Duchaine, Father David Hermann, Father Paul Eisele and Father Doug Klein. That committee has been in place since 2014.

TeamWorks International is a Minnesota-based, strategic and leadership development consultancy. The organization provides customized data research and analysis for clients by a comprehensive environmental scan of the organization’s current reality.

TeamWorks International’s clients in the Catholic Church include many dioceses across the country, including the Dioceses of Sioux Falls and Winona, Archdiocese of St. Paul/Minneapolis and public and private schools.

## Prayer for Pastoral Planning in the Diocese of Sioux City

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that we the people of the Diocese of Sioux City prayerfully look to the future. During this time of pastoral planning, we implore the Holy Spirit to pour out upon us the gifts of wisdom, understanding, courage and hope.

May we exercise the virtue of prudence by opening our hearts and minds to be good stewards of the legacy of faith inherited from those who built the Church in northwest Iowa;

May we exercise the virtue of justice by opening our hearts and minds to assure that the voices of persons from all generations, all vocations and all areas of the diocese are welcomed and respected;

May we exercise the virtue of fortitude by opening our hearts and minds to understand and acknowledge the spiritual and practical realities of our day and prepare for the days to come;

May we exercise the virtue of temperance by opening our hearts and minds to accept the changes in diocesan, parish and personal life that the Holy Spirit, through this planning process, is guiding us to make.

Under the protection of Our Lady of Guadalupe, our patroness and Saint Joseph, our patron, may we discern and implement what is best for the diocesan Church and all the faithful of the Diocese of Sioux City.

**Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**



## MINISTRY 2025

### DRAFT DESIGN OF DIOCESE

- ◆ Four deaneries
- ◆ 31 clusters of 67 parishes
- ◆ 9 parish clusters serve as Hispanic association ministry
- ◆ 12 parishes with an additional priest
- ◆ 40 parishes/church buildings move to oratory status
- ◆ 23 Catholic schools