



# Disciple Maker Index Report

## What is All Things New?



All Things New is the pastoral planning initiative begun by the Archdiocese of St. Louis in January, 2022. This planning process's overall goal is to develop a plan that will enable a vibrant Catholic presence in the Archdiocese for the next 100 years. The process will produce this plan through unceasing prayer, meaning calling on Catholics to pray for the initiative and their own personal need for Jesus. The process also seeks to articulate a unifying vision that will empower both leadership and the lay faithful of the Archdiocese. Finally, the process seeks ways to intentionally practice stewardship by allocating resources that will ensure long-term viability of the Archdiocese.

## What is the DMI?

As part of All Things New this past Spring, parishioners here at St. Raphael the Archangel and across the Archdiocese of St. Louis were invited to share their thoughts, reflect on their spiritual growth as well as provide parish leadership with invaluable insight regarding their parish's strengths and opportunities through a survey, the Disciple Maker Index (DMI). The DMI survey is designed to capture information regarding attitudes and beliefs, relationship and satisfaction, participation, and demographics using a quantitative tool that can be used for benchmarking and trending information.

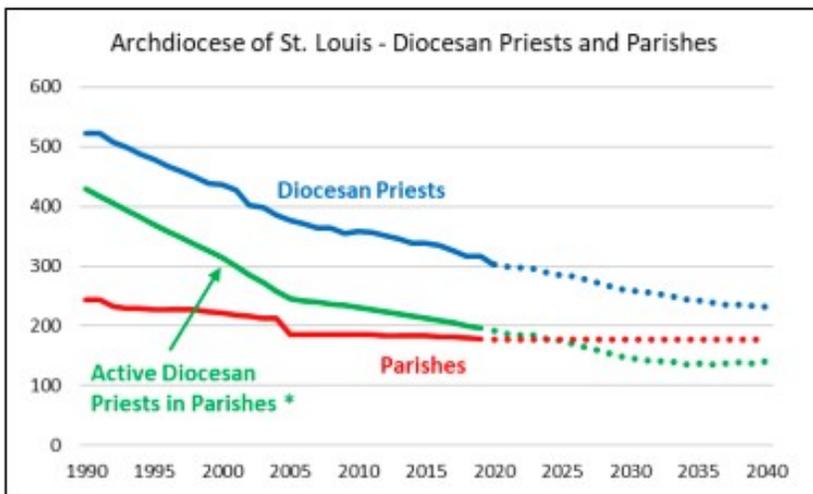
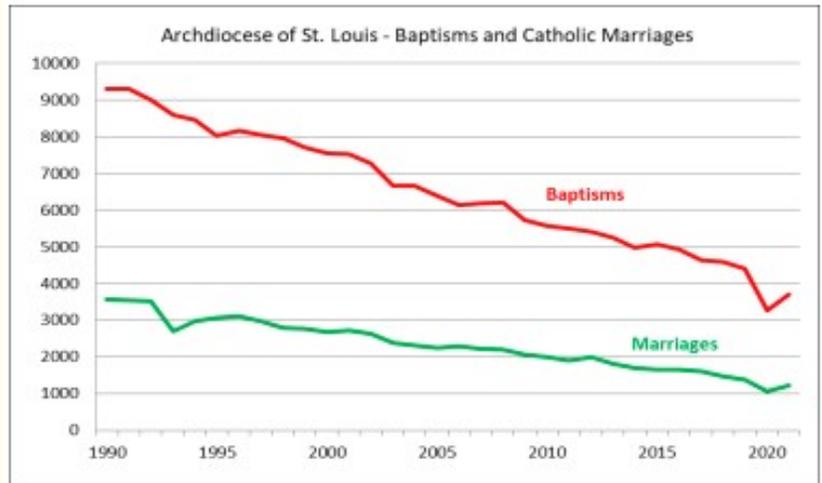
## Our Community and the DMI

372 adults ranging from under 18 years old to over 75 years old in our parish took the survey. This number represents 92% of our weekly average Mass participating faithful. The national participation average is between 7-10 percent, so this puts us 85 percent above the national average.

The Disciple Maker Index contained 75-questions designed to provide an opportunity for parishioners to reflect on their individual spiritual growth and overall parish effectiveness.

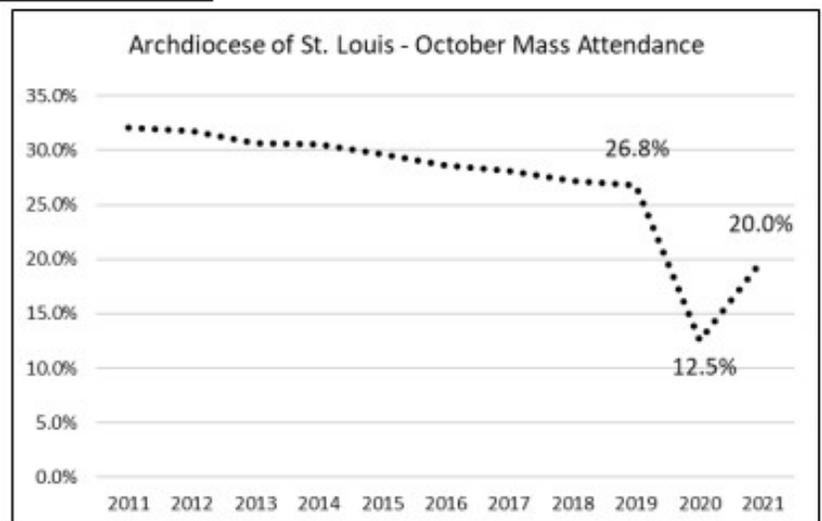
# An Overview of the Archdiocese in 2022

- The Archdiocese of St. Louis is 178 parishes encompassing the City of St. Louis and 10 surrounding counties – a large and diverse territory: urban, suburban and rural.
- Our local church has been declining for several decades as older Catholics die and there are insufficient number of young Catholics to take their place.
- This is best exemplified by the significant decline in the number of baptisms and weddings in our diocese.

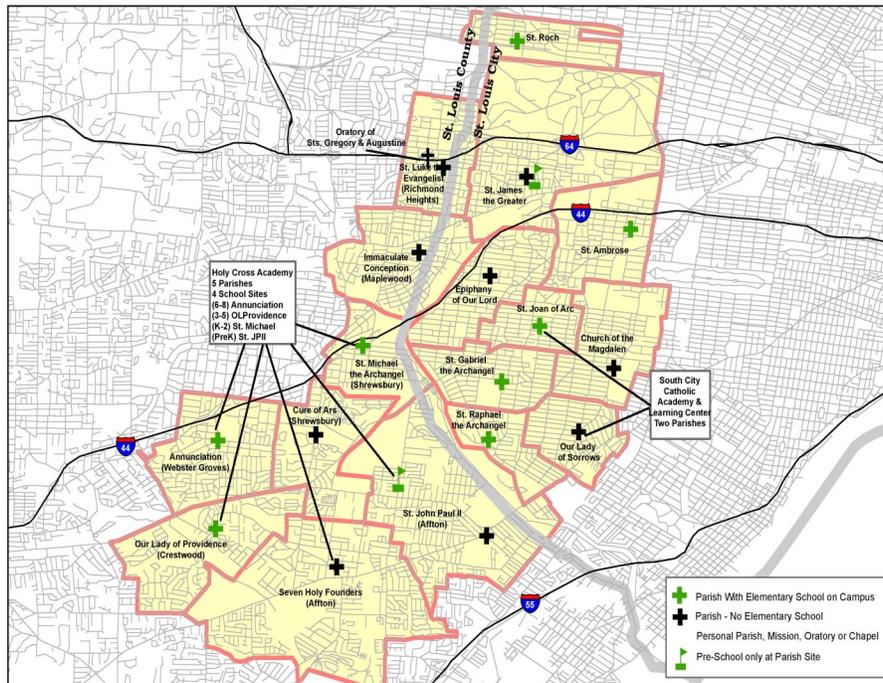


- Our diocesan priests are aging and number of priests to serve our Catholic population is declining.

- Over the past decade, Mass attendance has been on a steady decline. The long-term implications of COVID are unknown, but the rebound in Mass attendance from 2020 to 2021 still leaves us 25% below pre-COVID levels.



# About Our Planning Area



## Demographic Data

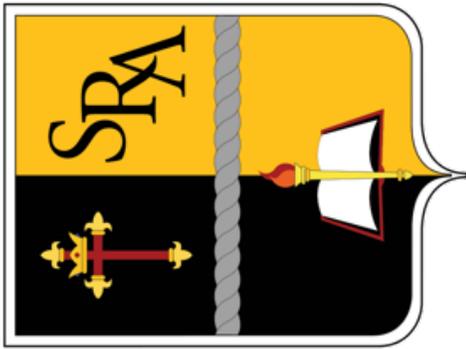
- Total population in the planning area in the 2020 census was 137,297 which was down 2% from 2010.
- The population is slightly aging with the percent of the population 55 or older rising from 25% in 2000 to 30% in 2020.
- Median household income in the area is \$60,579, consistent with the Archdiocesan average of \$60,700.

## Catholic Demographic Data

- 24% of the population is registered Catholic (28,628), which is higher than the Diocesan average of 18%.
- Mass attendance has declined 45% from 2014 and is now at 6,823 on an average weekend.
- Given the number of masses, attendance fills the churches in this planning area at 22% of capacity.
- The number of baptisms in the area averaged 387 per year vs 374 funerals

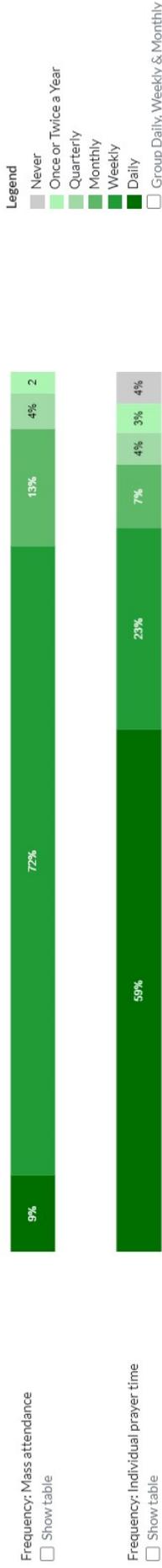
## Catholic Schools in our Planning Area

- The six elementary schools in this planning area have 1,608 children enrolled in Catholic elementary schools, down 24% from 5 years ago.
- All but 2 (Holy Cross and St. Gabriel) have under 200 students.
- Most schools draw heavily from outside their parish boundaries (all but 2 schools in this planning area are under 50%).
- The number of students going to Catholic elementary schools from the parishes in the planning area is 1,503.
- There are 297 students enrolled in PSR in 2021, down 30% from 5 years earlier



# Strengths and Opportunities for Growth

Top 3 by Highest Percentage Monthly or More Often

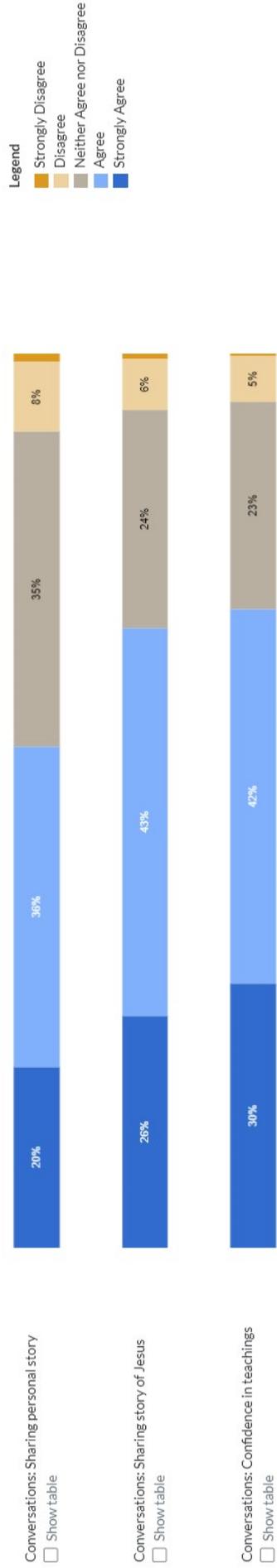


Frequency: Mass attendance  
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Frequency: Individual prayer time  
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Frequency: Prayed with someone  
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Top 3 by Lowest Percentage Strongly Agree



Conversations: Sharing personal story  
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Conversations: Sharing story of Jesus  
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Conversations: Confidence in teachings  
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What drives a parishioner to recommend their parish to a friend and to indicate the parish is helping them grow spiritually?



**SRA Continually Outperforms the Archdiocesan Averages**

Rec Pastor: Diocesan Average 51% Strongly / 27% Agreed  
 Welcoming Community: Diocesan Average 45% Strongly / 37% Agreed  
 Community Info Available: Diocesan Average 41% Strongly / 35% Agreed

**SRA'S DMI Results**

## Concluding Comment From Our Parish's Key Parish Leaders:

*“St. Raphael has a vibrant, welcoming community. We currently have many good things happening here. However, we understand that in order to grow we need to look at making changes for the future. This is not unique to St. Raphael. The DMI has helped us discern what areas we can use improvement on. We are excited to strategize and develop new programs and activities that will help our parish grow and to strengthen our parishioners' faith.”*

Fr. John Mayo, Pastor  
Dr. Dan Meshoto, Parish Council  
Mrs. Lucy Adams, School Board  
Mr. John Rooney, Finance Council

Mrs. Cara Berta, Stewardship Committee  
Mr. Tom Magee, At-Large Member  
Mrs. Jennifer Baur, Parish Primary Point of Contact for All Things New



## ALL THINGS NEW

### Next Steps

**August 28, 2022:** Parish Meeting to Discuss Current State of the Parish and to Introduce the 2022 Angel Appeal

**October, 2022:** Key Parish Leaders to Meet with other Key Parish Leaders in our planning area

**October or November, 2022:** Parish Listening Sessions on All Things New. The Pastoral Planning office will make two similar presentations to our parish to outline the draft models for our planning area.

**Winter 2022:** Discernment and Refinement of Models with final recommendations made to Archbishop Rozanski for his decision

**May 28, 2023:** Announcement of All Things New plan

**After May, 2023:** Steps will be announced to begin to implement the plan