

TIMELINE OF IMPORTANT DATES

APRIL 2015-OCTOBER 2018

April 12, 2015

Bishop Zubik announced the *On Mission for The Church Alive!* initiative and commenced a year of prayer and study to learn about the realities facing the diocese and our parishes. He created the On Mission Commission, tasked with studying these realities, analyzing feedback from all Catholics in the diocese, and making recommendations to him regarding the best path forward.

Summer 2015

An Evening of Prayer was held in 12 parishes across the diocese to pray for the Holy Spirit to guide the *On Mission!* process. Other opportunities for prayer included the July 2015 Evening of Recollection in another 12 parishes and the August 2015 Festival of Praise with Sacred Music at Saint Paul Cathedral.

Summer 2016

More than 4,000 of the faithful attended information sessions titled "Rumors, Rumbblings and Realities." The presentations shared the challenges we face as the Catholic Church of Pittsburgh and how *On Mission for The Church Alive!* seeks to respond.

September 2016

The consultation phase of *On Mission!* began with 21 district consultation sessions. On Mission Parish Teams reviewed multiple draft models for future parish life. The Parish Teams were lay faithful called by their pastors to serve in their parishes as ambassadors for matters related to *On Mission!* Every parish had such a team.

October 2016

Parish consultation sessions commenced for all parishioners to learn about and reflect upon the draft models for parish life. More than 30,000 pieces of feedback were collected following 329 sessions.

March 2017

Back to the Font Lenten mornings of reflection were held at 16 sites throughout the diocese. The faithful reflected on their baptism and prayed to be renewed in their call to follow Jesus. Finding new ways to serve Jesus and our neighbors through the Church is a key aspect of *On Mission!*

March-May 2017

Based upon the 30,000 pieces of feedback from the parish consultation sessions, the draft models for parish life were significantly revised. Proposals for 49 parish groupings were shared with the clergy and On Mission Parish Teams, who offered feedback.

July-August 2017

Bishop Zubik met with all priests of the diocese in small groups to hear their hopes and concerns about the future of the Catholic Church of Pittsburgh and how they can continue to serve the Church in *On Mission!* During this time all priests and deacons also completed an online survey through which they shared their preferences for their future ministry.

- August 2017** Bishop Zubik hosted four *On Mission!* summer sessions to share how *On Mission!* seeks to fulfill his vision for *The Church Alive!*
- September 2017** The On Mission Commission, having studied the proposed parish groupings, the rationale for their design and the feedback from each stage of the process, made its recommendation to Bishop Zubik for 48 parish groupings.
- September-October 2017** Every priest and deacon met with representatives of the Diocesan Clergy Personnel Board (a representative group of clergy who advise the bishop on matters of clergy assignments) to discuss their survey responses and their expectations for their future ministry.
- October 2017-
January 2018** The Diocesan Presbyteral Council (a representative group of priests who advise the bishop) and the Diocesan Pastoral Council (a representative group of priests, religious and lay faithful who advise the bishop), studied the recommendations of the On Mission Commission. They reviewed the groupings and provided feedback that resulted in 17 alternatives to the commission's recommendations.
- January-February 2018** Meetings were held with pastors within 17 groupings to share these alternatives for their consideration.
- April 28, 2018** Bishop Zubik announces his final decisions for *On Mission for The Church Alive!* These decisions include:
- The 57 final parish groupings;
 - The clergy team assigned to serve the grouping, including an administrator and any number of the following: parochial vicars, parish chaplains and deacons;
 - The maximum number of weekend Masses that can be celebrated in the grouping
 - A category for each grouping that designates the timeline in which it should work toward becoming a new parish.
- Summer 2018** Each incoming priest-administrator will work with the current pastors to create an interim Mass and Confession schedule that will go into effect on October 15, 2018. These interim Mass schedules will be publicized beginning in mid-August 2018 in parish bulletins, the *Pittsburgh Catholic* and at www.diopitt.org. Within six months these interim schedules will be reviewed and, if needed, adapted.
- October 15, 2018** Parish groupings, clergy assignments and interim Mass schedules take effect. Clergy teams and parishioners begin their work together to create vibrant parishes and effective ministries.