



BEACONS ROUNDTABLE

November 8, 2022

*Building a Love in Action Team
A Roadmap to Parish Vitality: Vatican Instruction*



Mary, Mother of the Church and our Mother,
present our prayer of thanksgiving to your Son.
Beg from Him the graces we need to be faithful disciples
who follow Him with enthusiasm and joy.
May our witness to the love of God bear fruit
in our archdiocese, parishes, homes and hearts.
Teach us to be God's joyful witnesses,
to radiate Christ in all we do,
so that all people might know, love and follow your Son
through this life and into the next.
Amen.



Agenda

Prayer & Welcome

A Roadmap to Parish Vitality: Vatican Instruction

Building a Love in Action Team

Breakout Discussion

Sharing

Announcements



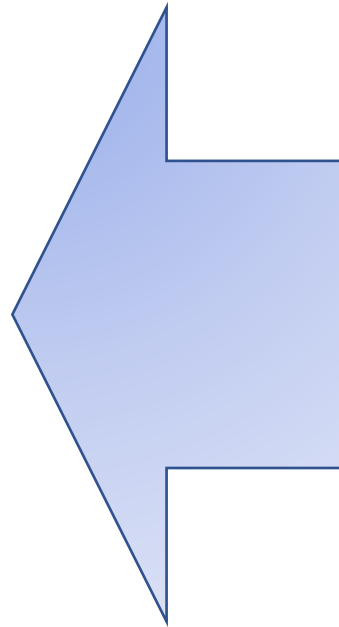
Beacons Roundtable

Vatican Instruction



A Roadmap to Parish Vitality

Vatican Instruction



Comprehensive Sources

- Vatican II Documents (LG, GS, GE)
- Papal Encyclicals and Letters (12 +)
- Canon Law
- General Audiences and Other Papal Communication

Drawing from

- Pope Paul VI
- Pope John Paul II
- Benedict XVI
- Francis
- Congregation of the Clergy

Focused on Parish and Parish life, unlike any previous document

See Pathway for document and helpful videos from Divine Renovation:

<https://pathway.catholicaoc.org/pathway-tools/the-pastoral-conversion-of-the-parish>

Vatican Instruction

The pastoral conversion of the parish community in the service of the evangelizing mission of the Church

Vision for Pastoral Vitality

Canonical Considerations

- Call for pastoral conversion to a missionary focus
- Evangelization: primary, preeminent, and preferential
- Eucharist is the cornerstone

- Consolidation criteria
- Empowerment of deans
- Finance and Pastoral Council considerations

Vatican Instruction

Challenge

In order for the journey of the Word to continue, the Christian community must make a determined missionary decision “capable of transforming everything, so that the Church’s customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channeled for the evangelization of today’s world rather than for her self-preservation” (5)

Vatican Instruction

Response Needed

- A **renewed vitality** is required that favors the rediscovery of the vocation of the baptized as a disciple of Jesus Christ and a **missionary** of the Gospel, in light of the Second Vatican Council and subsequent Magisterium (11)
- Saint John Paul II specified that “**evangelization is the cornerstone of all pastoral action**, the demands of which are **primary, preeminent and preferential**” (12)
- If the Parish does not exude that spiritual dynamic of evangelization, it runs the risk of becoming **self-referential and fossilized**, offering experiences that are devoid of evangelical flavor and missionary drive, of interest only to small groups.(17)

Vatican Instruction

Consolidation

- Parishes remain separate until consolidation (56,70)
- Suppressing a parish is legitimate only “for causes directly related to a specific parish” **but not diocese factors**, (48) or family factors.
- The Bishop may confer additional faculties on the Dean to better promote sharing among parishes (53)

Reminder: Fr Jason will host a specific meeting on this early in 2023.

Vatican Instruction

Councils

- **Finance:** Required. A consultative body with a culture of co-responsibility (106). Must be at least 3 people. **Can share people across parishes** (104).
- **Parish/Pastoral:** A consultative body, optional but highly recommended. “Far from being simply a bureaucratic organ, the Pastoral Council highlights and realizes the centrality of the People of God as the subject and active protagonist of the evangelizing mission, in virtue of the fact that every member of the faithful has received the gifts of the Spirit through Baptism and Confirmation” (110)
- All should support “being **a force of evangelization**” (122)

Vatican Instruction

*The pastoral conversion of the parish community **in the service of the evangelizing mission of the Church***

Vision for Pastoral Vitality

Canonical Considerations

- Call for pastoral conversion to a missionary focus
- Evangelization: primary, preeminent, and preferential
- Eucharist is the cornerstone
- Consolidation criteria
- Empowerment of deans
- Finance and Pastoral Council considerations

Questions?

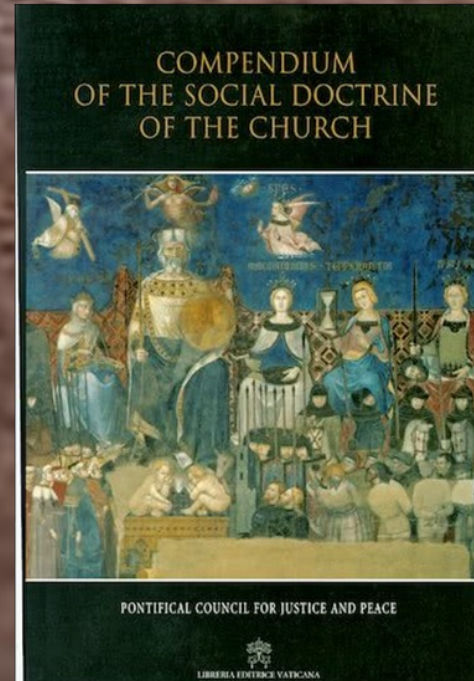
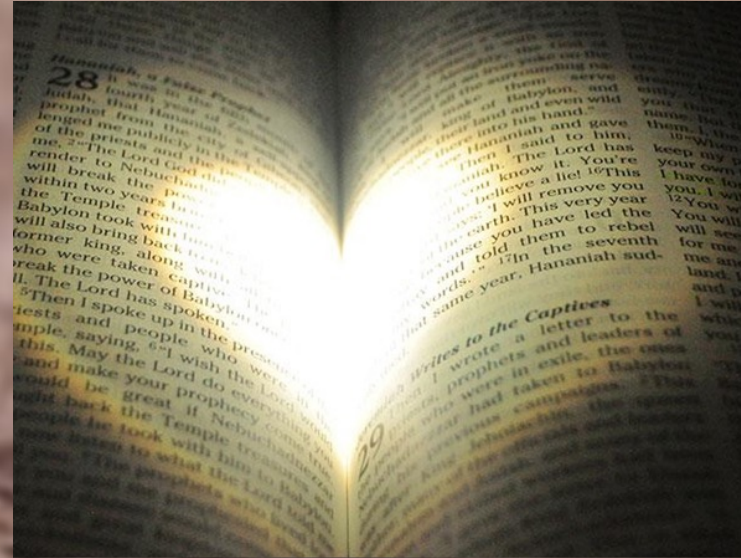
Love In Action



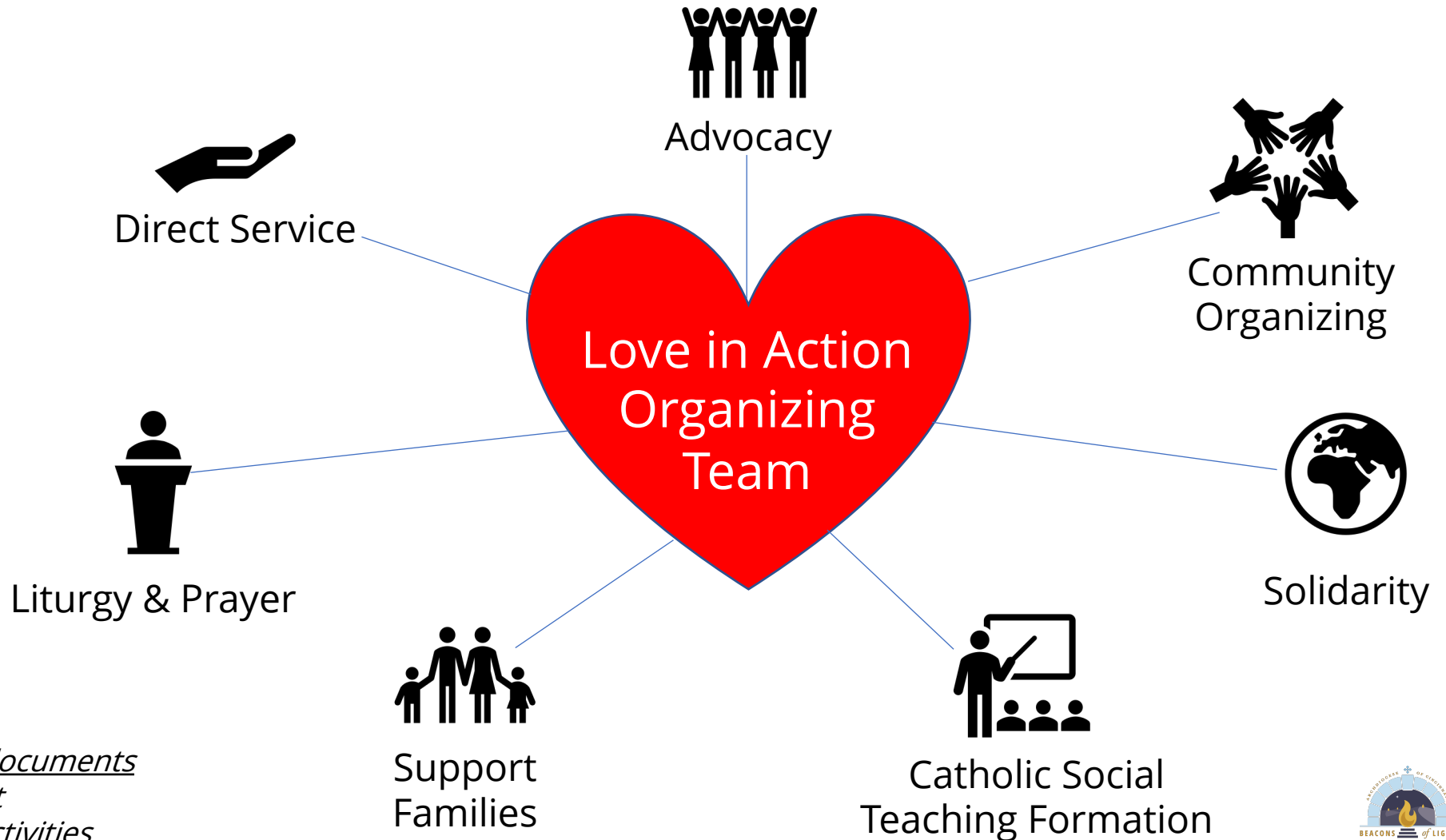
Agenda

1. Introduction
2. The Place of Love in Action in the Church
3. What Do We Mean by “Love in Action”?
4. Working Together to Promote the Kingdom
5. Phase 1 Goals and Resources
6. Breakout Groups
7. Plenary Sharing and Additional Questions

GOLD EVER



Love In Action Ways of Engagement



Derived from these USCCB documents
- Communities of Salt & Light
- Pastoral Plan for Pro-Life Activities



Love In Action

Charity & Justice Topics

Abortion Restriction
Addiction Care
ASL Services for the Deaf
Anti-Assisted Suicide Advocacy
Bereavement
Care for Creation
Care for the Dying Education
Death Penalty Abolishment
Domestic Violence
Faithful Citizenship
Human Trafficking
Immigration
Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities
Mental Health Awareness
Post-Abortion Ministry (Project Rachel)
Racism
Religious Liberty
Sensory Friendly Masses

Examples of Engagement

National Partner Organizations

Catholic Campaign for Human Development
Catholic Relief Services
Catholic Rural Life
Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities

Local Partner Programs

40 Days for Life
Catholic Charities/Social Services
Food Pantries & Soup Kitchens
Habitat for Humanity
Homeless Shelters
March for Life
Pregnancy Care Centers
St. Vincent de Paul



Love In Action

Supporting Offices

Office for Respect Life Ministries
- Office for Persons with Disabilities

Catholic Social Action Office
- Interfaith & Ecumenical Office
- Catholic Rural Life Office

African American Pastoral Office

Prison Ministry

World Mission Office

Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio

Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley



Love In Action

Phase 1 Goals and Resources

1. Love in Action Transitional Coordinator

- A key coordinator for the Family to pull people together
- One staff member or parishioner designated for the Family
- Perhaps a new staff position: Love in Action Director/Coordinator

POSITION SUMMARY

The Director of Love in Action is a key member of the Family Leadership Team (FLT) and reports directly to the Pastor. The Director of Love in Action leads the overall vision to advance human life, dignity, and care for creation within the framework of Catholic Social Teaching and organizes action through ministries of service and social justice. The Director of Love in Action oversees and guides the various different projects and programs in the Family of Parishes so as to maximize participation and foster collaboration across multiple ministries. S/he also assists in integrating Catholic Social Teaching principles into liturgical life and formation (e.g. schools, religious education, RCIA, etc.).



Love In Action

Phase 1 Goals and Resources

2. Fill Out an Inventory for Each Church

- Very useful in helping staff and parishioners know what ministries are happening across the Family
- A tool for awareness and celebration; not for immediate decisions for “what stays and what goes”

3. Form Love in Action Transitional Team

- Invitation from coordinator to representatives from each church
- Reflective of the diversity of ministries throughout the new Family (e.g., St. Vincent de Paul, respect life, mission twinning, care for creation, or perhaps members of outreach or social justice committees)
- Different for every Family!

4. Get to Know Each Other

- Love in Action Leadership Retreat



Love In Action

Phase 1 Love in Action Retreat

Goals of the Retreat

- Create an opportunity for persons/committees involved in Love in Action ministries (outreach, respect life, social justice) within a Parish Family to get acquainted.
- Prayerfully reflect on the gifts each parish brings to the family within the Love in Action Pathway, Principles, Vision and Parameters.
- Establish positive communications between these groups to facilitate future collaboration.



Love In Action

Phase 1 Love in Action Retreat

Preparatory Work

- Have a designated Love in Action transition coordinator.
- Each parish should have completed the Phase 1 inventory.
- Determine with groups/committees/commissions within each Parish should be included.



Love In Action

Phase 1 Love in Action Retreat

Agenda

1. Opening prayer
2. Activities
3. Moving forward together
4. Closing ritual: done at end of event if no service follows or as sending forth to the service project



Discussion Questions

1. Families of Parishes are facing immediate questions related to Mass schedules, staffing, administration, etc. How would engaging the parishes in discussions about common ministry areas related to Love in Action be helpful? Could Love in Action activities, such as the retreat or a shared service opportunity, be a unifying effort for many parishioners?
2. Is there a vibrant Love in Action ministry at your parish that you would be eager to see expanded to the other parishes in your Family? Or, is there a Love in Action ministry that is struggling in your parish and could be reinvigorated with energy from other parishes in the Family?

Discussion Questions

1. Families of Parishes are facing immediate questions related to Mass schedules, staffing, administration, etc. How would engaging the parishes in discussions about common ministry areas related to Love in Action be helpful? Could Love in Action activities, such as the retreat or a shared service opportunity, be a unifying effort for many parishioners?
2. Is there a vibrant Love in Action ministry at your parish that you would be eager to see expanded to the other parishes in your Family? Or, is there a Love in Action ministry that is struggling in your parish and could be reinvigorated with energy from other parishes in the Family?

Please share your comments or questions in the chat



Beacons Roundtable

Available Now!



BEACONS *of* LIGHT
**PASTORAL
PLANNING**
PATHWAY

**THE PATHWAY
PLATFORM**

pathway.catholicaoc.org



Platform Rollout

~~July 1:~~ Public content goes live

~~Week of July 4:~~ Pastors will receive link and directions to establish LEADER access

~~July 7 – August 15:~~ Pastors identify key staff who will have LEADER access

~~Oct 1:~~ Parishioner leaders will gain LEADER access

~~Here Now!~~ Self Registration for Parish Leaders at

~~<https://pathway.catholicaoc.org/leader-sign-up>~~

NOW!: Parishioners will gain USER access

Announcements

- Next Beacons Roundtable session
 - 11/22 1:30 PM: Stewardship & Visioning (Preview Phase 2)
- [Living Your Strengths](#) 11/15 or 11/17
- [Called and Gifted Workshop](#) 4/17 or 4/18
- Slides and other resources available on the resource page, emailed out soon!

Closing Prayer

May the Virgin Mother help us to say our own “yes”, conscious of the urgent need to make the Good News of Jesus resound in our time.

May she obtain for us renewed zeal in bringing to everyone the Good News of the life that is victorious over death.

May she intercede for us so that we can acquire the holy audacity needed to discover new ways to bring the gift of salvation to every man and woman.

Amen

