



Leadership Survey Summary | December 2021

Effective leadership from priests, deacons, lay staff and other parish leaders will be critical to the success of Beacons of Light and the future of our Families of Parishes throughout the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. During 2022, there will be opportunities for formation in leadership, growth in the skills needed to lead pastoral planning, and orientation to the Beacons process itself. The following provides a summary of responses to a survey used to solicit input from parish leaders in December 2021.

343 responses were received from priests, deacons, parish staff, and parishioner leaders.

Priests: 53

Deacons: 76

Parish staff: 142

Parishioner leaders: 73

The survey solicited feedback on potential leadership opportunities in three categories: formation, training, and Beacons of Light orientation. The topics below received 50% or higher responses from the total response group. * The first three topics in each category received the highest responses.

Formation

- * Group development, team building, establishing trust, building staff relationships
- * Co-responsibility
- * The Church as the Family of God
- * Synodality, listening
- * Self-assessment, strengths, spiritual gifts, leading one's self
- * Inclusion, diversity
- * Discernment

Training

- * Change management
- * Pastor transition
- * Communication strategies
- * Conflict management
- * Parishioner engagement
- * Responding to resistance
- * Accountability
- * Productive meetings, time management

Beacons of Light Orientation

- * Families of Parishes: models of leadership
- * Parish administration
- * Bringing the Beacons principles to life
- * Beacons Basics: what is pastoral planning?
- * The Pastoral Planning Pathway

When offered multiple options for the delivery of leadership formation and training, respondents favored live events whenever possible, with additional preference for meeting outlines with brief content and questions for discussion. Interest was also expressed in virtual offerings, electronic newsletters, and video or article links.