

***CONNECTED IN THE SPIRIT***  
**PASTORAL PLANNING FOR THE**  
**ARCHDIOCESE OF INDIANAPOLIS**

**PARISH SUMMARY REPORT FORM**

Name of Parish: St Mary of the Immaculate Conception (#123)      City: Rushville, IN

In 50 words describe the uniqueness of your parish, highlighting important historical or cultural aspects which the Archdiocesan Planning Commission would want to know.

St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish was founded in 1857 and remains the only Catholic Church in Rush County. The parish has provided a Catholic School since 1868 to teach the Catholic faith and educate the youth of the community of all denominations. The school currently hosts Preschool to 6<sup>th</sup> grade and is the only faith-based school in the county. St. Mary's is the largest faith community in Rush County and services several community needs such as a food pantry and helping the needy. Its members are very active in the community, serving in the local government and leading/assisting many other charitable organizations. 2014 saw the completed renovation of the church constructed in 1898. The renovation has enhanced parish life and has enticed many non-Catholics to visit. We are a strong, family-oriented, multi-generational, agriculturally rich community. This provides us with a strong and responsive congregation. The parish is strong financially and has plans to renovate its school and rectory buildings as well as work to evangelize the Catholic faith in our community.

After evaluating your parish based on the Criteria for Planning, what do you consider your three greatest strengths?

1. Sacramental celebrations are prayerful, meaningful, and formative
2. Pastor, parish leader and parishioners are strong and capable
3. Financially secure

Based on the Criteria for Planning, what are three areas where you hope to improve?

1. Recruiting new/younger volunteers
2. Outreach to others and increased social justice ministries
3. Improved educational programming and catechesis across all age groups

Section II – Parish Conversations & Assessment

**HOW IS YOUR PARISH STAFFED TO ACCOMPLISH ITS MISSION?**

Please list all paid positions and check if they are full or part time.

**Paid Ministry Positions (List Principal by name and the number of teachers in Catholic School)**

Name of Position                      Full/Part time                      Check, if shared with another parish

Example:

*Youth Minister*                      *Full time*                      *X*

1. Administrator of Religious Education                      Part Time – 6hr/wk
2. School Principal (Mrs. Sherri Kirschner)                      Full Time
3. School Teachers – 10                      Full Time

**Paid Support Positions (i.e. Secretary, Bookkeeper, Maintenance, etc.)**

Name of Position                      Full/Part time                      Check, if shared with another parish

Example:

*Secretary Religious Ed.*                      *Part time*

1. Parish Secretary                      Full Time – 30hrs/wk
2. Contract Accountant (Parish & School)                      Part Time – 8 hrs/wk
3. School Secretary                      Full Time
4. School Cafeteria                      Part Time – 20hr/wk during school
5. Maintenance – 1                      Full Time
6. Pianist                      Part Time – 1 Mass/wk

## Section II – Parish Conversations & Assessment

### Non-paid Ministry Positions

Name of Position                      Full/Part time                      Check, if shared with another parish

Examples:

*Organist*                                      *Part-time*

*Youth Minister*                              *Part-time*

1. Organist/Pianist – 4                                      Part Time
2. Religious Education Catechist – 15± (preschool – 11<sup>th</sup> grade)                      Part Time
3. Youth Group Organizer                                      Part Time
4. Food Pantry Operators – 20±                                      Part Time

### Non-paid Support Positions

Name of Position                      Full/Part time                      Check...as above...

Example:

*Secretary Religious Ed.*                      *Part time*

1. None

Is there anything else you want the Archdiocesan Planning Commission to know about your parish that impacts long term planning for you and/or the Archdiocese of Indianapolis?

One public grade school closed in our county at the end of 2013-14 school year in Carthage, IN, and there is currently discussion about the closure of another public grade school in the county at the end of the 2014-15 school year.

The number of county residents at or below poverty and receiving government assistance is increasing, which highlights the need for the social services outreach of St Mary Catholic Church in our community.

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“KEEPING YOUR PARISHIONERS INVOLVED IN THE PROCESS”

**PARISHIONER INPUT RECORD**

COUNTY: Rush

DEANERY: Connersville

PARISH: St Mary of the Immaculate Conception

CITY: Rushville

CHECK LIST

- |   |                |                                     |
|---|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Bulletin Inserts                                   | <u>  X  </u>   | How Often? <u>  1  </u>             |
| 2. Bulletin Article                                   | <u>  X  </u>   | How Often? <u>  3  </u>             |
| 3. Pastor or Core Team Letter                         | <u>  X  </u>   | How Often? <u>  2  </u>             |
| 4. Prayers of the Faithful                            | <u>  X  </u>   | How Often? <u>  nearly weekly  </u> |
| 5. Parish Website                                     | <u>  X  </u>   | How Often? <u>  ___  </u>           |
| 6. Town Hall Meetings                                 | <u>  ___  </u> | How Often? <u>  ___  </u>           |
| 7. Small Group Meetings<br>(other than the Core Team) | <u>  X  </u>   | How Often? <u>  1  </u>             |
| 8. Sub-Committee Meetings                             | <u>  ___  </u> | How Often? <u>  ___  </u>           |
| 9. Parish Surveys                                     | <u>  ___  </u> | How Often? <u>  ___  </u>           |
| 10. Other   | <u>  ___  </u> | How Often? <u>  ___  </u>           |

**Which approach or approaches were most effective and why?**

Task Force Meeting – Core Team felt this was a good way to get a good range of clear, concise, high-quality input from selected individuals within our parish

**Is there any approach you would consider a “Best Practice?”**

We liked the Task Force meeting method, but given parish size and involvement, others might be more or equally effective.

**Is there anything else you want to say?**

Not presently.

**Thank You! Please send your feedback to Mickey Lentz with your Cohort Suggestion Form.**