

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

**KEY PARTICIPANTS DURING A PARISH RESTRUCTURING PROCESS**

- Archbishop – Archbishop initiates the deanery-wide parish restructuring project, approves the project goals, reviews all recommendations, and makes the final decisions after appropriate consultation.
- Archdiocesan Project Coordinator – Mickey Lenz, Chancellor manages the planning process within the Archdiocese and coordinates all planning initiatives with the Archbishop, archdiocesan and parish leadership, and the consultants.
- Archdiocesan Planning Commission – A group of 16-20 ordained, religious and lay leaders broadly representative of the archdiocese who are delegated by the Archbishop to study the parish/cohort evaluations and suggestions, make preliminary and then final recommendations after a review of each cohort response.
- Presbyteral Council and Other Archdiocesan Advisory Groups – These groups provide needed advice and/or consent to the Archbishop as he requests.
- Archdiocesan Staff – These archdiocesan leaders provide input during the planning process and serve as resource people to parishes involved in cohort planning and implementation.
- Parish Core Teams – Groups consisting of the pastor and four other parish leaders who are responsible for seeing that all required work is completed at the parish level, including involving parishioners in the planning process, maintaining open and direct communications within their parishes, and representing the parish in all cohort meetings.
- Parish Pastoral Council and Parish Finance Councils – While the Parish Core Teams are “responsible for seeing that all required work is completed at the parish level,” it is vital for input to be provided by the two councils in the parish.
- Cohort Core Teams – Groups consisting of parish core team members from all parishes in a given cohort who study the various parish self-evaluations, complete a cohort evaluation, decide upon a cohort suggestion and rationale, review the preliminary recommendation from the Archdiocesan Planning Commission, and make a cohort response and rationale.
- Staff and Parishioners – Active participants in the planning process.
- Consultants – A team of professional consultants from The Reid Group experienced in planning and parish restructuring.