

Q6 What do you find most challenging about the Archdiocese of Baltimore Pastoral Plan?

Answered: 158 Skipped: 29

| # | Responses | Date |
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| 1 | How the historical faith in this area will be respected and remembered, and how faith will be nurtured as a primary goal versus administrative considerations; how the Vincentians will continue their most needed and important mission to this community, particularly in this time of unease and uncertainty in the world at large; how the needs of the parishioners of St. Joseph's, Taneytown, will be met at such a distance; how we would be able to continue to have the spiritual guidance of our priestly fathers for daily Mass, Confession, Sacraments, and simply growing in our faith life and expression | 11/7/2016 12:03 AM |
| 2 | N/A | 11/7/2016 12:00 AM |
| 3 | Meeting the needs of the pastorate with fewer priests, if it is determined that priests are needed elsewhere in the diocese. | 11/6/2016 11:37 PM |
| 4 | Potentially giving up what makes St. Joseph's unique. | 11/6/2016 9:48 PM |
| 5 | It seemed to beat around the bush quite a bit. I still don't know what it really means. | 11/6/2016 5:42 PM |
| 6 | I hope that the mass schedule does not change significantly. | 11/6/2016 3:15 PM |
| 7 | Losing my parish. | 11/6/2016 2:29 PM |
| 8 | Maintaining St Joseph's individuality as a congregation. | 11/6/2016 12:04 PM |
| 9 | The biggest challenge is maintaining the number of priests to cover the current number of masses. My fear is that the priests will be redeployed throughout the diocese and one or two priests will be required to cover all four parishes. In my opinion, St. Joseph's Taneytown shouldn't have been made part of the pastorate and to that end an effort should be made to keep a priest quartered in Taneytown and a sufficient mass schedule there. | 11/6/2016 11:19 AM |
| 10 | I wonder if new churches will be built. I also wonder if shrines (those with large spaces) would be considered as also being parishes to avoid building new churches. | 11/6/2016 10:47 AM |
| 11 | Seems like a lot of running for the priest | 11/6/2016 10:44 AM |
| 12 | Changes. I think a good many more mature parishioners are upset with the plan. | 11/6/2016 9:53 AM |
| 13 | Losing St. Joseph's mission including liturgical worship. | 11/5/2016 10:56 PM |
| 14 | I don't know | 11/5/2016 6:12 PM |
| 15 | I dont know | 11/5/2016 6:08 PM |
| 16 | The data that shows decrease in mass attendance. | 11/5/2016 6:07 PM |
| 17 | The actual "living out" of the plan and the impact it will have on our parish and the continuation of the Vincentian Fathers presence in our parish. | 11/5/2016 2:45 PM |
| 18 | The availability of parking for elderly and handicapped parishioners near church. Also, the unknowns about how the change will affect my daily mass attendance at St Joseph's Church. | 11/5/2016 1:30 PM |
| 19 | hopefully always having a priest | 11/5/2016 12:54 PM |
| 20 | Being able to get to mass. The plan is going in the wrong direction. Who would ever think decreasing mass availability would increase attendance. This will surely decrease attendance and make very unhappy parishioners. | 11/5/2016 11:13 AM |
| 21 | Changing | 11/4/2016 8:08 PM |
| 22 | The ideal that our church would be combined with others simply for a financial gain for the other parishes is unacceptable. Those of us who are life long attendees of St. Joseph's will do whatever it takes to make certain that our church does not close, does not eliminate our priests, and remains the financially independent and productive family we have always been. St Elizabeth Ann started her school here in the valley and that legacy has created a very unique parish dynamic. At a time when you want young people to come back to the church, this will surely deter them. | 11/4/2016 1:11 PM |

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| 23 | Plan to consolidate parishes will destroy parish life and finances. Seems to give up on increasing priestly vocations. Plan to combine with St Joseph Taneytown is unwise: too far, no existing connections between communities. | 11/3/2016 10:03 PM |
| 24 | Changes of mass schedules, I would have to see the changes and make a decision on staying where I am or switching to a different parish | 11/3/2016 5:11 PM |
| 25 | I'm concerned about the fact that there are 4 parishes in our proposed pastorate. While St. Josephs Emmitsburg, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel and St. Anthony's seem to fit together somewhat due to location and the fact that they regularly collaborate, the Taneytown parish doesn't really seem to fit that dynamic. I think it will be very difficult for one pastor and finance committee to really oversee the needs of these 4 parishes. I'm also frustrated by the very vague statements and assertions that are made in the "plan"--there's a distinct lack of actual data (numbers of parishioners per parish, financial strength of each parish, and more---those were the two things that jumped out at me when viewing the pastorate maps). It's hard for me to judge whether the suggested pastorates are sound without more information. | 11/3/2016 2:32 PM |
| 26 | Maybe to organize the "model of pastorates" to implement the "Missionary Disciples Planning" effort. Then, it has to implement it, follow it, evaluate its progress and make the necessary changes. It is important to keep in mind that also the Archdiocese of Baltimore has to adapt and change. For example, this is a great opportunity to motivate and inspire new men to become Deacons. This "Missionary Disciples Planning" would benefit if there are more lay that would like to compromise serving the Church in the Archdiocese of Baltimore. One example is to motivate younger men to apply to become deacons. I know many men with families and young children who would like to become Deacons but the program is not flexible enough to work with them and their families. With a few changes to the program, this could be changed and more young men could apply and in the long run serve the Church for more years. | 11/2/2016 5:19 PM |
| 27 | I hope it does not mean that Fr. Holliday and Fr. Charlie have to leave!! Their homilies and care for their parishioners are very inspiring. Also, I really like having a late Mass (10-11 am), so that would be hard for us if this time were eliminated. | 11/1/2016 9:53 PM |
| 28 | I cannot imagine St Joseph's not having the Vincentian priests. Please don't take them away. | 11/1/2016 7:00 PM |
| 29 | A potential loss of community in the well established parish. Mass time restructure which will make it difficult to attend mass at my parish. | 11/1/2016 1:39 PM |
| 30 | Ultimately a parish or 2 will be closed due to lack of attendance so the decision as to which ones close will be challenging | 11/1/2016 8:40 AM |
| 31 | If any churches do need to be closed, I think it is very important to provide some type of transportation to the older parishioners to be able to attend Mass at another location. | 10/31/2016 9:53 PM |
| 32 | Keeping the marginal catholics that you already have. A limited mass schedule, increased travel time, crowded masses, less face time with the priest and what about daily masses. These changes are not going to inspire anyone they're going to turn them off. | 10/31/2016 6:53 PM |
| 33 | The uncertainty of the continuity of the operation of the cluster themselves and the ability to provide effective communication. | 10/31/2016 4:27 PM |
| 34 | Possibility of fewer mass times at St. Joes | 10/31/2016 4:07 PM |
| 35 | Evangelization | 10/31/2016 9:00 AM |
| 36 | The change this will create. It will be good, but it will be a bring adjustment for the community. | 10/30/2016 10:55 PM |
| 37 | Trying to figure out how much work will be required by our priests to make this come to fruition. | 10/30/2016 10:17 PM |
| 38 | Deciding which parishes are best served by being part of a pastorate. Some would suggest that St. Joseph's Church (Emmitsburg) is linked to culturally critical geography (Grotto, Seton Shrine, Mt. Saint Mary's) and that the possibilities present as a member of a pastorate would diminish this link. | 10/30/2016 8:32 PM |
| 39 | How all the people will be able to attend Sunday Mass, given The number of parishioners who presently attend 3 masses. | 10/30/2016 6:31 PM |
| 40 | non-use if clergy in liturgical planning | 10/30/2016 3:25 PM |
| 41 | Mass times changing | 10/30/2016 2:57 PM |
| 42 | May affect membership loyalty | 10/30/2016 2:26 PM |
| 43 | Convincing parishioners in the affected churches & schools that this is the best way to save our Catholic institutions. | 10/30/2016 1:34 PM |
| 44 | That the availability of daily Mass may be challenging or impossible for working people. | 10/30/2016 12:39 PM |
| 45 | The whole concept is challenging but I find that a good thing. Our world, nation, community is hurting and lost and most people find ways of coping outside of Christ's Church. We need to change this trend which calls for all of us to challenge ourselves and grow and I see this change to Pastorates as part of that challenge to change and grow. | 10/30/2016 12:32 PM |

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| 46 | The "status quo" mentality of its parishioners. | 10/30/2016 11:24 AM |
| 47 | The uncertainty of change. How it will all unfold etc. Combining parishes when we already seem to be full. | 10/30/2016 11:24 AM |
| 48 | I don't see enough details | 10/30/2016 10:13 AM |
| 49 | Uncertainty about who will head local pastorate and make decisions | 10/30/2016 10:07 AM |
| 50 | St. Joseph's is a viable parish, there is no need to consolidate as long as the Vincentians are able to have a presents here. | 10/30/2016 9:37 AM |
| 51 | The combination of parishes and loss of mass times at St. Joseph's will make it a challenge for our family to continue to get to masses at St. Josephs all of the time. We are relatively new to the area and were very glad to find St. Joseph's - what is particularly appealing is the community presence of the church, much of which would be lost with fewer masses and a geographically larger "parish". We would recommend combining St. Joseph's of Taneytown with another parish(es). | 10/30/2016 7:22 AM |
| 52 | Mass schedules. Not to know if we will keep our Pastor. Will it affect Mass attendance? | 10/29/2016 7:05 PM |
| 53 | Pastor overloaded. Change of masses. Loss of "community feel" in church. The loss of the 12:00 mass previously was a disappointment--this is so much more. Hate to see it happen. Regarding question #7--would prefer to attend St. Joseph, Emmitsburg but would depend on schedule. | 10/28/2016 1:59 PM |
| 54 | The plan does not acknowledge the special relationship that St. Joseph's Parish has with the Diocese....the fact that the Church is staffed and supported with Vincentian Priests.I fear very much that the Congregation of the Mission (C.M.) will end their agreement to staff and support the Parish with Priests thereby requiring even more of a clergy resource demand to the Parish. | 10/27/2016 8:36 PM |
| 55 | our parish loses it's identity | 10/27/2016 8:22 PM |
| 56 | All of the changes. Change is not easy. | 10/27/2016 7:27 PM |
| 57 | The thought/possibility of 1)attending mass in another location and 2) the loss of Vincentian leadership of our parish. | 10/27/2016 5:10 PM |
| 58 | I am concerned we will lose having a quiet mass. | 10/27/2016 1:35 PM |
| 59 | The management of pastors and priests accruing more duties. Will the needs of the parishioners' be met? | 10/27/2016 11:51 AM |
| 60 | When a diocese, the Vincentian order and a parish community toss Our Lady of Emmitsburg out of the "Center of her Immaculate Heart", it is not surprising that vocations are squelched and conversion, especially among the youth, continue to fall short. Combining parishes administratively does not feed the faith of a Church that seems to have lost sight of the Truth and the zeal of the Apostles. | 10/27/2016 6:15 AM |
| 61 | Adequacy of priests | 10/26/2016 5:58 PM |
| 62 | Stubborness to change. I think it is very hard for people to adjust to change and this plan may cause some very difficult times ahead. | 10/26/2016 3:18 PM |
| 63 | How to please everyone. For myself I have several questions, what masses would be affected, would a priest still reside in Emmitsburg,how would the parish council be selected, as a group of all churches involved? Would my weekly donation be exclusively for St Joseph repairs or for all in pastorate? | 10/26/2016 10:12 AM |
| 64 | Concerned that mass attendance has consistently declined and how this may impact it to further decline. | 10/26/2016 9:34 AM |
| 65 | That mindsets will need to change, particularly with the elderly, since many do not understand why this is happening | 10/26/2016 9:33 AM |
| 66 | The inability to attend a Mass at my church at a convenient time and potentially no ability to attend at all. With 4 churches and only 3 Masses allowed, one church will not have a Mass I guess. Parking & seating will be a HUGE issue if every parishioner has to attend the same Mass. | 10/25/2016 11:12 PM |
| 67 | Leaving it up to the pastorate to decide the best way forward. It is the right way to go. But it will be a challenge. | 10/25/2016 9:58 PM |
| 68 | In each of the pastortates many people will feel that they are giving up more. | 10/25/2016 7:39 PM |
| 69 | One priest serving the number of people who are currently served by three or more priests, limited space/parking and difficulty fitting number of worshipers from three different communities into 3 Masses. | 10/25/2016 7:29 PM |
| 70 | Expecting 4 separate parishes to work as one. | 10/25/2016 5:24 PM |
| 71 | I would have to wait until it is completed, e.g. with Mass schedules, etc. | 10/25/2016 2:11 PM |
| 72 | This is a hard change to deal with. | 10/25/2016 10:16 AM |
| 73 | All the parishes have been around for many generations, so, depending on the types of changes, it may be difficult for some parishioners and create resentment. | 10/25/2016 10:01 AM |

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| 74 | Change is always a challenge. However, change is usually a necessity. | 10/25/2016 9:19 AM |
| 75 | If mass were moved to Taneytown, it would likely make mass attendance difficult for Emmitsburg residents as the highway to there is not adequate for the added traffic. Thurmont or the St Anthony's would not be as much of an issue. | 10/25/2016 8:02 AM |
| 76 | Breaking down the resistance to "we have always done it this way". Need to be open to new ways of doing things. | 10/24/2016 6:51 PM |
| 77 | That I may not have the weekday Masses available in close proximity of my house, being a devotee of such.(But PLEASE- make daily Communion available no matter what happens.) And though I have been devoted to daily Mass for many, many years, it will become more difficult with age to travel distances . And , unfortunately, it is many of the elders of our community who are the daily attendees. The Vincentian Fathers are so very much needed and wanted in our community as our continual link with Our Lord. DON'T cut this vital link from our lives. The Order gives us a stability that the region so desperately clings to in these troubling times. (I'll try to stop eating so healthy and exercising regularly lest am left without the daily Divine Company, if you will let the good Fathers stay till they can bury me and my husband. Pax Vobiscum. | 10/24/2016 3:15 PM |
| 78 | Getting buy in from the parishioners especially the elderly | 10/24/2016 1:51 PM |
| 79 | Lack of specifics. I understand that it is an evolving process. Answers to other questions on this survey are dependent on specifics. We have enjoyed Vincentian administration for many many years, and would hate to see this end. However, the CM community faces the same issues, so we would understand if the relationship had to end. | 10/24/2016 12:02 PM |
| 80 | I find that the most challenging thing about the Plan is the combining or clustering of churches under one Pastor or PLD. I am a staff member, so I am concerned over whether or not my job is secure in the future. Not knowing is difficult. | 10/24/2016 11:59 AM |
| 81 | The data collection was not very well done. The few responses in the original survey did not give a true picture of the the parishioners. | 10/24/2016 10:45 AM |
| 82 | Satisfying stakeholders - | 10/24/2016 10:00 AM |
| 83 | I fear that it will cause more people to break away from the church. If we combine with other parishes we might lose the church family and connection that we once had. | 10/24/2016 9:22 AM |
| 84 | co-operation and dealing with individual differences and opinions. "one cannot make all the people happy all the time". | 10/24/2016 8:46 AM |
| 85 | The most challenging is acceptance of the parishioners. | 10/24/2016 7:36 AM |
| 86 | Accessibility to the religious cornerstone we have now | 10/24/2016 6:52 AM |
| 87 | The bad news is depressing, from the low Mass attendance to the large drop in available priests in the archdiocese. But the laity will have to step up and make this work. | 10/23/2016 9:24 PM |
| 88 | People. They are the crux of the matter. They will be listened to and were assured of fidelity to their desires and what they have currently, but will still be mistrustful, fearful, resistent. | 10/23/2016 7:45 PM |
| 89 | I'm concerned that the planned pastorate of four parishes would spread our area parishes too thinly. Three seems a more reasonable number. St. Joeseph in Emmitsburg has already been very proactive in sharing religious education and other resources with Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St Anthony's Shrine. I think that it would be a huge stretch in distance and pastoral resources to add St. Joseph's in Taneytown to our planned pastorate. | 10/23/2016 6:11 PM |
| 90 | The distance in locations of the parishes. | 10/23/2016 5:33 PM |
| 91 | Depends on which church is identified, if mass times changes and if that happens the possibility of changing churches. | 10/23/2016 5:17 PM |
| 92 | We have to go along with working together. | 10/23/2016 2:36 PM |
| 93 | I guess for now not knowing where and when the mass times will be and where they will take place. And will it always be changing week to week . I'm not sure if o missed this in the plan. | 10/23/2016 2:20 PM |
| 94 | The possibility of St Joseph's being closed &/or the Vincentian priests being replaced with archdiocese priests. Also consolidation of parishes. We are family & now we have to blend. This type of change is difficult although we are all Catholic & one family in Christ, it will be a hard change. | 10/23/2016 2:08 PM |
| 95 | People accepting the changes in Mass schedules. | 10/23/2016 1:00 PM |
| 96 | Getting people to accept that change is inevitable to maintain a strong Catholic community. | 10/23/2016 12:35 PM |
| 97 | Whose house of worship will be closed and how that will affect people's lives. | 10/23/2016 11:46 AM |
| 98 | I think many people will have trouble with change especially if it involves going to a different parish, pastor, and time for Mass. | 10/23/2016 11:22 AM |
| 99 | Being an older person, how the changes will affect the times and places for services. | 10/23/2016 10:12 AM |

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| 100 | changing what is now "comfortable" | 10/23/2016 9:04 AM |
| 101 | I am concerned regarding the priest structure of the pastorate - I understand that there is one pastor in charge of the pastorate, but it is unclear to me if there will be associate pastors as well (and if so, will these associate pastors also be permitted to say three Sunday masses (in addition to those being said by the pastor)). | 10/22/2016 10:14 PM |
| 102 | Bring back some Latin chants and occasional songs to mass. | 10/22/2016 8:46 PM |
| 103 | How to please everyone. I don't think that's possible. | 10/22/2016 5:17 PM |
| 104 | The sharing of financial resources and responsibilities within a pastorate, particularly of those in non-urban areas will likely present real challenges. Realistically (and optimistically) the sharing of outreach programs, lay ministry, communal events and celebrations, and educational resources should not create issues, but maintenance or upgrade expenditure to a particular church building, parish hall, or graveyard from a pastorate's collective financial resource could easily generate resentment within the pastorate. The "3 Mass" formula raises real concern if implemented in those pastorates of greater than 3 parishes where only 1 priest is assigned. The arithmetic doesn't work for me. Perhaps the pastorate model in rural areas should be limited to 2, possibly 3 parishes at most. | 10/22/2016 2:06 PM |
| 105 | I don't think that St. Joseph in Taneytown should be grouped with St. Joseph Emmitsburg, St. Anthony and Our Lady of Mount Carmel. I think it should be with St. Johns Westminster | 10/22/2016 1:19 PM |
| 106 | I think the plan should be reconfigured to have the Taneytown church coupled with St. Johns instead of us, as it's not financially feasible to take on 3 other failing parishes and still keep ourselves afloat. I also think the distance would be a strain on the priest who was pastor. Additionally the parking situation is untenable for this current configuration. | 10/22/2016 1:13 PM |
| 107 | I worry about the autonomy of our parish, which we have built and maintained, being subject to the financial drain of the linked parishes who are not financially secure. I feel the addition of three unstable parishes will be an over taxing burden on St. Josephs. | 10/22/2016 1:05 PM |
| 108 | Difficulty of having enough priests | 10/22/2016 11:58 AM |
| 109 | It sounds complicated. Although I realize there is a shortage of priests. Our parish is financially healthy. However it sounds like we will be sacrificing in order to help nearby parishes. I think our parish facility will suffer. We have already cut back on the schedule of masses. I guess we could cut back more and share masses. My beautiful church where I grew up in Fall River MA. has been shut down. It was built in the 1880s. I fear this will happen to our churches in Thurmont, Emmitsburg and Taneytown. | 10/22/2016 11:24 AM |
| 110 | Lack of priests and possible reduction of masses | 10/22/2016 9:39 AM |
| 111 | Not being able to go to my parish church for Mass & other services. | 10/22/2016 7:01 AM |
| 112 | Not a good plan! Most of our PA parishioners that board the PA/MD line that are big contributors, they will leave and support PA church.....we lose the income and then supporting three other churches would not be a good financial move. | 10/21/2016 9:15 PM |
| 113 | Grouping churches together. Individuals do not like change. They are afraid of losing the familiar. | 10/21/2016 3:39 PM |
| 114 | St. Joseph's is a stable parish community and it is my understanding that we are doing OK financially. What impact will clustering with the other three parishes have on us. It's a concern for me. | 10/21/2016 2:02 PM |
| 115 | Concern over the pastorate's financial plan. St. Joseph's is a fiscally sound parish, but some of those in our grouping are not. The challenging part for me will be changing my attitude to looking at the pastorate as one entity and not "our parish and their parish" so as to not feel uncharitable in supporting the other parishes. | 10/21/2016 1:34 PM |
| 116 | They waited too long on all of this. The Vincentian Fathers are a blessing to St. Joseph's and I would like to see them stay as long as they can. I realize too that they do not have the numbers either and may not be able to staff this parish in the future....BUT current priest there Father John and Father Charlie are a blessing to this parish and we know they will not be pushed out...if they go they need to go on their time and not the Archdiocese's time....The People may be the most challenging and we may lose a few as they go from one place to the next. New mass schedules....who will get what times regarding the parishes. | 10/21/2016 10:59 AM |
| 117 | I understand the practical reality that there are just not enough priests to serve every parish in the Archdiocese. I can't help but feel sad, though, at the thought that my family may not be able to attend Mass every weekend at St. Joseph's, depending on scheduling. I am also saddened by the potential loss of our Vincentian priests. They have been a true blessing for the parish and their loss would be keenly felt. | 10/21/2016 10:55 AM |
| 118 | Cohesively unifying 4 parishes with unique histories and going against the "set in our ways" mentality. Joining parish finances in a way that parishioners don't feel jilted. But this is rooted in the idea that it's "them" and "us". I hope all the Catholics in the area can become an "us". | 10/21/2016 9:24 AM |

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| 119 | I think it will take enormous time, patience, and effort to re-build real communities from merging old ones. Many parishioners love the current community, and creating/investing in a new/different one, even if better in the long run, will be difficult. | 10/20/2016 10:25 PM |
| 120 | I'm worried about how far (relatively speaking!) Taneytown is and if we're going to have to start traveling there for things. We actually live in Fairfield currently but are a loyal St. Joe's family so to travel from Fairfield to Taneytown (or even Thurmont) is more of a hike than to Emmitsburg. | 10/20/2016 10:02 PM |
| 121 | combination of some parishes | 10/20/2016 9:50 PM |
| 122 | Obviously we love where we worship. We are use to "our church". It will be hard to at times have to travel to another church but we are not that far from one another. | 10/20/2016 7:55 PM |
| 123 | One single leadership team for multi parishes | 10/20/2016 6:33 PM |
| 124 | I attend the 4:30mass at St Joseph and I would hope to continue this mass. | 10/20/2016 6:03 PM |
| 125 | Reduction of mass times and loss of parish identity. | 10/20/2016 5:50 PM |
| 126 | Initially, there will be a decline in attendance until this new pastorate plan becomes the new normal. | 10/20/2016 5:02 PM |
| 127 | implementing change | 10/20/2016 4:42 PM |
| 128 | For our parishes in particular, if there is one pastor, he will now be responsible for roughly triple the number of families. I worry this will put additional strain on pastors. I understand it is in response to dwindling numbers of priests, but I'm not sure how stretching pastors so thin solves current problems or promotes vocations. For St. Joseph's in particular, I fear that *if* the parish transitions from a Vincentian parish to an Archdiocesan parish, it will be very difficult and parishioners will be lost- particularly ones who travel from PA or other distances. | 10/20/2016 4:00 PM |
| 129 | Recruitment and implementation. | 10/20/2016 3:35 PM |
| 130 | To avoid bias, influence and passion when finalizing the plan. Change is hard enough for some to accept. Sound judgement based on facts must be the basis. | 10/20/2016 2:27 PM |
| 131 | These communities are each different in their own way. The distance is not always easy. | 10/20/2016 1:42 PM |
| 132 | Change is never easy for older parishioners! The majority of our parishioners are over 60 ! | 10/20/2016 1:40 PM |
| 133 | As in most areas, people are aligned closely with their parish and the ways things are done. The lack of a spiritual leader, especially among the elderly, is a frightening thing. | 10/20/2016 12:38 PM |
| 134 | Not sure. | 10/20/2016 12:26 PM |
| 135 | My concern is not being able to attend daily Mass. | 10/20/2016 11:59 AM |
| 136 | We have 4 parishes in our proposed pastorate. How can 1 priest be available for all 4 parishes, and which parish will go without Mass on a given weekend? | 10/20/2016 11:53 AM |
| 137 | the fact that some of the beautiful churches in this area are going to be closed | 10/20/2016 11:53 AM |
| 138 | The document mentions that a priest or pastoral leader will be the lead in the church of a specific area. We need a priest to be present to the people. | 10/20/2016 11:38 AM |
| 139 | Lack of parking at parish sites, stress on the Priest (will there be more lay people hired to assist the Priest?), suggest St. Joseph, Taneytown join a parish in Carroll County where it resides, would it drive away the Vincentians?, could someone still get married at the Church of their choice in the pastorate?, difficulty with getting the plan info out to all the parishioners | 10/20/2016 11:22 AM |
| 140 | Not enough information on the details of the plan. | 10/20/2016 10:50 AM |
| 141 | That the parish would lose its singular identity and given the fact that only 3 Masses can be celebrated by one priest per weekend the adjustment will be difficult and the coordination of schedules will surely lead to some degree of consternation within the dispersant parish demographics. | 10/20/2016 10:49 AM |
| 142 | Our parish will lose its identity or will be forced to close. | 10/20/2016 9:51 AM |
| 143 | Plan implementation appears to be based on strategic views only partially recognizing geographic needs.Rural areas are specific in nature, requiring sensitive vision to allow and enable growth of Catholic base and faith within each community. The growth of our faith is not addressed, merely reduction. | 10/20/2016 9:37 AM |
| 144 | change | 10/20/2016 9:35 AM |
| 145 | Collaboration | 10/20/2016 9:34 AM |

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| 146 | Not enough information is being offered. We are being asked to form opinions and plans without all the information needed. Will the Archdiocese listen to the people in the pew, or is this survey and meetings a red herring? | 10/20/2016 9:28 AM |
| 147 | Not enough parking to sustain all the people at any of the clusters. A concern also is the money in savings will be depleted to help keep other churches afloat that will probably close anyway when the funds are down. | 10/20/2016 9:07 AM |
| 148 | Combining parishes administer d by ththe diocese with Vincentian administered St. Joe's | 10/20/2016 8:49 AM |
| 149 | Vincentians own rectory. it a dinosaur of a building. Not in the best interest of parish to buy it or lease it. Logistically regional parish office should move to St. Anthony's. No answer to #8 I go to Vigil. Mass and Seton does not have a Vigil. Don't know to # 9 | 10/20/2016 8:39 AM |
| 150 | I struggle to trust that in the end the faith based results will be accomplished, and that it won't just be a merging of parishes for convenience and because of priest/financial shortages. There's part of me that hopes this isn't just a "positive spin" on what will end up being massive church closings in 5 years. | 10/20/2016 7:34 AM |
| 151 | Making do with much less, which is no solution to the problem. Church is only going to harm itself in the long run. | 10/20/2016 7:27 AM |
| 152 | There is a clear, optimistic tone that this will make our parishes so much stronger and healthier - I'm eager for it to happen now. The waiting is the challenging part. I wanted to add a comment to #7 - we are planning to remain parishioners at St. Joseph's and the Mass schedule would not change that. What could change it, is if Mass is eventually moved to one of the other pastorate sites; in that case we would probably switch to the PA parish close to our home. We became members of St. Joseph's before we lived in PA so we have continued to attend Mass there, but if Mass moved further south into Maryland it seems it would make canonical sense to switch to a parish in our diocese. | 10/20/2016 7:22 AM |
| 153 | Combining four parishes to work as 1. | 10/20/2016 7:01 AM |
| 154 | I think the front and center reference to the decrease in priests, financial instability of parishes, falling Mass attendance etc. could make the plan seem to some as simply an effort in organizational self-preservation. I believe the Holy Spirit has allowed these hard circumstances to arise so as to prompt us to refocus on the real reason for our parish existing. And that is to follow Jesus and prompt others to do the same. (Missionary Discipleship) | 10/19/2016 11:39 PM |
| 155 | I would like to know some more concrete examples of what kind of collaboration will be expected among parishes. | 10/19/2016 11:20 PM |
| 156 | I've been through the merging of 2 parishes before it results in much alienation loses character loses families I would strongly recommend avoiding it's the start to a downward spiral | 10/19/2016 11:18 PM |
| 157 | Losing priests and pastors who actually know their congregation. | 10/19/2016 11:11 PM |
| 158 | Our parish will loose it's identity ! | 10/19/2016 11:10 PM |