



# One Heart in Christ

## Catholic Diocese of Lincoln Pastoral Plan

### OUR VISION

The Diocese of Lincoln is a Church that speaks to the heart of its people leading them to Christ and eternal life.

### OUR MISSION

The mission of the Diocese of Lincoln is to cultivate the healing love of Christ in the faithful and those who seek Him by proclaiming the Gospel, walking with one another, and worshipping through prayer and the sacraments.

### OUR PASTORAL PRINCIPLES

#### HEALTHY PARISHES

Nurture thriving parishes throughout the diocese by supporting an engaging and relational parish culture.

#### EDUCATION

Educate to inspire virtue, service, and a thirst to know Jesus.

#### RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS

Support our clergy, religious, and aspiring vocations as spiritual fathers and mothers so they experience being seen, known, and loved.

#### HOLY MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE

Build up holy marriages and family life so that every person finds a home in the Church.



*"One Heart in Christ is more than a title or a motto. It's a share in the mission of Jesus Christ."*

— Bishop Conley



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### OUR PASTORAL PRINCIPLES

#### HEALTHY PARISHES

##### Goals

**I.**

Grow new evangelization opportunities that result in increased Mass attendance and participation in parish events.

**II.**

Achieve full active participation in liturgical worship that increases Mass attendance, adoration, and reception of the sacraments.

**III.**

Grow faith formation, discipleship, and participation that fosters holiness and a sense of belonging and mission.

**IV.**

Inspire and equip parishioners to take an active role in lay leadership and organizational health including stewardship of parish facilities and property, operations, and financial health of the parish.

#### EDUCATION

##### Goals

**I.**

Grow parent and family faith formation, discipleship, and participation through educational opportunities that foster holiness and a sense of belonging and mission.

**II.**

Revitalize youth intellectual and faith formation across all programs (CCD, Homeschool, Youth Ministry, Catholic Schools) to form lifelong missionary disciples.

**III.**

Garner the necessary resources to achieve optimal enrollment in our Catholic Schools and expand as needed.

**IV.**

Prioritize education, training, and ongoing formation for priest and lay administrators, teachers, and support staff.

#### RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS

##### Goals

**I.**

Provide health, wellness, spiritual resources, and support to priests and religious for a balanced, integrated life.

**II.**

Provide pastoral leadership development opportunities so that priests feel confident and equipped for their work.

**III.**

Create opportunities for the laity to deepen their understanding of the vocations of priesthood and religious life.

**IV.**

Promote a culture of vocations at the parish and diocesan levels to increase the number of priests and religious.

#### HOLY MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE

##### Goals

**I.**

Revive sacramental marriage and prepare couples for marriage through structured stages of formation, mentorship and support in the pre-marriage and early marriage stages allowing for conversion, accompaniment, and a bridge into the parish community.

**II.**

Provide ongoing marriage enrichment, formation and renewal for couples married five years or more throughout the diocese.

**III.**

Broaden ministries of accompaniment throughout the diocese for families, with special emphasis on the poor and those in need.

**IV.**

Provide access to resources that support families in order to promote a culture of life.