2026 Strategic Planning Vision and Listening Meeting

- **Our Lady of Lourdes Parish**
- **St. John Vianney Parish**
- **St. Joan of Arc Catholic School**

Strategic Planning Committee Members:

Rosie Barton
Dcn. Ryan Burchett
John Fernas
Dennis Gerard
Gary Ghere
Pat Meade
Tom Quinn

A Path Forward for Our Parish Community

- This meeting is about understanding where we are, why decisions are needed, and how we move forward together.
- Full details are in the published Strategic Plan document available on parish websites.

Strategic Plan Process

3 SJV/3OLOL REPS EACH WITH CONCENTRATION MEET TWICE A MONTH SINCE OCT

200+ PEOPLE IN FOCUS GROUPS IN JANUARY

OVER 1300 SURVEY RESPONSES IN FEB

Guiding Principles

- Good Stewardship
- Unity Over Division
- Pastoral Care
- Mission Focus
- Benchmark Driven Timeline
- Transparency

Who We Are: A Strong Catholic Community

NEARLY 3,000 HOUSEHOLDS

VIBRANT MINISTRIES

STRONG CATHOLIC SCHOOL

EXTRAORDINARY GENEROSITY

Our Commitment to the Future

- St. Joan of Arc Catholic School
- Built through sacrificial generosity
- Investment in faith formation
- Part of a unified campus vision

From Vision to Impact

- K-8 enrollment up 22% from 2024-25 (at Lourdes)
- As of 3/3/26:
  358 K-8
  118 Preschool
  25 Daycare
- Building completed 10% under budget saving $3M.
- Good stewardship of funds raised so far.
- Land acquired for church.
- Our single biggest ministry as parishes has brought us together.

From the Beginning, We Envisioned More

Bettendorf Catholic Study Committee 2018

Conclusion

The task of the Bettendorf Catholic Study Committee was two-fold:

- To gather information regarding population and growth in Bettendorf
- To discuss how these factors affect the larger Catholic Community of Bettendorf.

We provided information about the history and demographics and outlined the facility and ministry needs of both parishes. From this information, the Committee formulated possible scenarios and identified pros, cons and uncertainties for each. We ranked the possible scenarios by favorability and provided comparisons of other properties.

Based on the Bettendorf Study Committee's review, the following lists the scenarios in order of favorability.

1st – Scenario #3 – Relocate Our Lady of Lourdes Parish and Lourdes Catholic School
2nd – Scenario #2 – Renovate (Stay in the current facilities and update the facilities)
3rd – Scenario #4 – Combine OLOL Parish, Lourdes Catholic School SJV Parish & Relocate
4th – Scenario #1 – No Change (Maintain current physical facilities)
5th – Scenario #5 – New School Only (Keep current locations of OLOL and SJV parishes)

The Realities We Must Plan For

- Fewer priests serving larger communities
- Rising costs & aging facilities
- Mortgage obligations shaping decisions

Inaction Is Not An Option

The Realities We Must Plan For

Fewer priests serving larger communities

11 of our 34 pastors in 70 parishes reach retirement age by 2028.

The Realities We Must Plan For

Rising costs, aging facilities & changing community

City Growing Rapidly NE

OLOL facility needing millions in repairs

The Realities We Must Plan For

Mortgage obligation shaping decisions

$22.5M Mortgage

Would Add $21M Interest If Paid Through Term. (2054)

Q7 What concerns you most about potential changes ahead? (Select up to 3)

How can the Catholic Church in Bettendorf best live out our mission to form disciples?

PARISHIONER FEEDBACK

Parishioners recognize change is necessary and support moving forward

There is a readiness for action rather than continued delay.

People want a clear plan and transparent communication.

Q9 If our parishes were to become one canonical parish (while potentially operating in two locations initially), when would be the right time?

Q12 Ensuring no one feels like 'winners and losers'
Extremely important
Very important
Somewhat important
Not at all important
0%
10%
20%
30%
40%
50%
60%
70%
80%
90%
100%

PARISHIONER FEEDBACK

“Change is not easy for anyone.
However, change is needed here.”

“Waiting only makes it harder…
let’s get the ball rolling.”

“Transparency and communication
is extremely important during this process.”

“God’s will be done,
let’s all keep showing up for our side of the miracle”

Strategic Plan Roadmap

A Vision Forward

- **Sharing A Full Vision:** The first steps can't be considered without a full vision.
- **Recommendation To Leadership:** This plan has been presented to leadership as a roadmap.
- **Not Set In Stone:** There is much to be determined
- **Immediate Ideas Can Happen Fast:** Parishes are in position to take first steps.
- **Benchmark Driven Plan:** Steps will be taken at financial benchmarks more than calendar dates. We will need to be flexible.
- **End Goal In Mind:** This is a conversation that started as early aas 2016. We vision a unified church at SJA school site.
- **Financial Stewardship:** New church not pursued until school paid in full.

2025–2026
Immediate Actions & Parish Unification

- Canonical merger forming St. Joan of Arc Parish
- Begin mortgage reduction
- Parish campaign phases conclude by end of 2026

Possible Path toward a unified Catholic campus

Immediate Steps Recommend

- Complete Canonical and Corporate Merger to St. Joan of Arc Parish by July 1, 2026 (Start of fiscal year)
- One parish, two campuses
- Combined staffs, financials, pastoral council & finance committees.
- Begin Ministry Consolidation
- Wind down operations in Our Lady of Lourdes School Building, but maintain church & PAC.

Immediate Steps Recommend

- Combine Parish Bulletins and Websites
- Establish Church-School Integration Staff Responsibility
- Develop and Implement Comprehensive Communication Strategy
- Begin Planning for Diverse Liturgical Styles in Future Mass Schedule
- Initiate Regional Planning Conversations
- Rezone and Replat Our Lady of Lourdes Property

Accelerated Mortgage Reduction

- Mortgage can be eliminated by **August 2030**
- Regular debt service: **$1.8 million annually**
- Accelerated principal payments: **$4.0 million annually**
- Total annual commitment: **$5.8 million**
- Accelerated payments continue for approximately **four years**
- **Saves Nearly $17M in interest**

Accelerated Mortgage Reduction

- Principal reduction before end of 2027 cuts interest $3 for every $1 applied.
- $2 million has already been applied taking 6.4 years and $6.6M in interest off the loan.
- Diminishing returns over time.

Funding the Accelerated Mortgage Reduction

Projected Funding Pathway

- **Parish fundraising push:** $15 million from major donor push, existing donor extensions and new donor recruitment
- **School family contribution program:** $3 million over 5 years
- **Eventual Sale of Our Lady of Lourdes property:** $2 million
- **Parish resources:** $2 million has already been applied to principal.

Planning-Level Facility Cost Comparison – Our Lady of Lourdes Options

Targeted Modernization	Selective HVAC replacement, electrical and lighting upgrades, partial interior improvements, limited ADA.	$4M – $7M
Comprehensive Modernization	Campus-wide HVAC, electrical, lighting, interiors, fire protection, ADA, abatement.	$8M – $12M+
Annual Operations	Strictly operating costs of managing the OLOL buildings	~$200K/YEAR
Demolition	Depending on extent and unknown variables	$500K-$700K

Why We Are Recommending Closure of Our Lady of Lourdes

- We act now from strength, shaping our future responsibly.
- Two campuses divide resources needed for ministry and mission.
- The Lourdes facility requires costly reinvestment we cannot sustain.
- Consolidation strengthens parish life and serves future generations.
- Property proceeds reduce debt and secure long-term stability.
- Next step in the process for a new unified St. Joan of Arc Church connected to our school.
- Vianney property sold after new church is open.

Honoring Lourdes & Acknowledging Grief

- Sacred home for generations
- Open until suitable buyer secured
- Grief is real and respected
- Sacred items preserved per canon law
- Commemorative and healing celebrations

Rezone and Replat Our Lady of Lourdes Property

- Rezone as C2
- Combine into one lot
- Changes Nothing For Lourdes
- Could Substantially Increase Property Value For Future

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- Parish life fully unified at St. John Vianney campus & St. Joan of Arc School

2027–2028

Possible Path toward a unified Catholic campus

Why Consolidate To St. John Vianney?

- Nearly double seating
- Nearly double parking
- Inspection found no deferred maintenance

Transition Period

Location	Capacity	Parking
SJV	**1,000**	**323**
OLOL	**550**	**169**
SJA Gym	**815**	**194**

Mass Time	Avg. Combined	Max Combined
Sat 4/4:30 PM	**659**	**908**
Sun 8/8:30 AM	**685**	**744**
Sun 10:30/11 AM	**763**	**812**
Sun 5 PM	**242**	**310**

Does Not Include Christmas/Easter

Transition Period

- St. John Vianney Hosts Bulk of Masses
- Mid Morning Mass Added at St. Joan of Arc School
- Weddings/Funerals/Sacraments at SJV
- This period strengthens us while we prepare for the future.

Proposed Mass Time	Location
Sat Evening	**St. John Vianney**
Sun Daybreak (No Music)	**St. John Vianney**
Sun Early Morning	**St. John Vianney**
Sun Mid Morning	**St. Joan of Arc**
Sun Late Morning	**St. John Vianney**
Sun Evening	**St. John Vianney**

How Will Worship Work At The School?

- Have an altar and sacristy already
- Folding chairs on floor
- Gym bleachers
- Overflow into common area

Q10 How do you feel about potentially worshiping in temporary spaces (like St. Joan of Arc School) during a transition period if it means better long-term outcomes?

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Debt Elimination & Parish Strengthening

- Aggressive Mortgage Reduction Continues
- Parish ministries strengthened with unified resources

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- Consultation with parish and diocese
- Initial design and feasibility work
- Campaign planning begins

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- Diocesan policy: 60% in hand/100% pledged before construction

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2032
Opening of St. Joan of Arc Church on School Campus

- Unified Catholic campus completed
- SJV Property Sold To Help Finance New Church

Possible Path toward a unified Catholic campus

Will People Come To This Location?

OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISHIONERS

ST. JOHN VIANNEY PARISHIONERS

ST JOAN OF ARC SCHOOL FAMILIES

COMBINED PARISHIONERS/FAMILIES

DEVELOPMENT AREAS

Map 1.5 shows the potential areas for future development, including the areas for annexations and the urban fringe. These potential development areas contain a total of approximately 10,618 acres. These areas were split into the following development categories:

DEVELOPMENT AREAS	
Undeveloped Areas within City	**2,482 Acres** Short-Term Development
TIER 1A	**890 Acres** Short-Term Development
TIER 1B	**890 Acres** Short-Term Development
TIER 2	**1,807 Acres** Long-Term Development
TIER 3	**4,549 acres** Long-Term: Urban Fringe, currently outside of 2045 planning horizon.

Source: RDG Planning& Design

MAP 1.5 - BETTENDORF FUTURE DEVELOPMENT AREAS

Source: RDG Planning & Design

Vision Beyond These Decisions

Debt elimination

Unified Catholic campus near future city center

Church on school site

Stronger ministries

Our turn to share our faith with future for generations

Measuring Success

FINANCIAL BENCHMARKS

Debt Reduction

Campaign Success

Property Sale

Balanced Budget

COMMUNITY METRICS

Mass Attendance

Sacramental Life

Youth Ministry Growth

New Parishioners

MINISTRY METRICS

Combined Ministries

School Church Integration

Communication Effectiveness

STAFF METRICS

Staff Retention

Clergy Health

Leadership Development

Bishop Walsh's Support

- Bishop is supportive of where the parish wants to go
- Bishop is not pushing us in any direction
- He requires a sound financial path forward
- Will meet with parishioners 6 PM, April 20 at the school

What Happens Next

TRUSTEES AND
FR. RICH SEEK INPUT

BISHOP WALSH
MEETING
MON. 4/20/26

DECISION POINT

ONGOING
COMMUNICATION

BENCHMARKS
GUIDE PROGRESS

A Future Rooted in Hope

- We are strong
- We invested in the future
- We are fulfilling our vision
- We will build something lasting for generations to come

Discussion And Ideas

- Biggest Hope?
- Biggest Concern?
- Unanswered Question?