

PASTOR'S ASSESSMENT

Assessing Your Strengths and Areas for Development

With many roles and responsibilities beyond being a priest and providing for his personal, physical, emotional, and spiritual health, every pastor has his own unique strengths and areas for development. Each of these responsibilities must be addressed.

Consider the following roles, and with input from your team, rank yourself from your greatest area of passion to your least (1 greatest, 4 least).

Preaching

This includes homilies at liturgical celebrations including Masses, baptisms, weddings and funerals.

Pastoral Care

This includes counseling individuals and couples, giving spiritual direction and performing works of mercy (visiting the sick, comforting the sorrowful, etc.).

Administration

This includes day-to-day and operational execution of the parish including overseeing facilities, finances and administrative tasks.

Leadership

This includes developing new strategies for the parish and motivating, inspiring and actively managing people on a daily basis to achieve the parish's goals.

Once you've ranked yourself, the key question is what will you do about those areas that are either not your passion or not your strength. You have two choices:

1. First, you can choose to work hard on those areas to improve.
2. Second, you can choose to actively delegate more of those areas to those who are gifted and passionate about them. Even if you choose this option, you may have to spend time making improvements to this area (e.g. preaching, pastoral care) because you can't **completely** delegate all of those duties.

What you can't do is choose to do neither, because that leaves your parish with a significant deficit. So, what is your plan?