



St. Norbert &
Our Lady of the Brook

Dear Parishioners,

As a faith community, St. Norbert and Our Lady of the Brook Parish is on a journey to better know, love, and serve the Lord. Together we are called to embrace Christ's vision of missionary discipleship so we can thrive and be a place for ourselves and others to grow together in faith. We hope each member can experience our Parish as a place to:

- Encounter and deepen our relationship with the Lord, leading to life transformation.
- Have the joy of trusting, loving relationships and the support of a welcoming, accepting, and encouraging Parish community.
- Feel empowered to share our experiences with others and invite them in.

To do this, we want to ensure that each of us who participates in the Parish is, in fact, experiencing this environment and culture.

Three years ago, we participated in a Disciple Maker Index (DMI) survey to assess our progress toward these goals. We used the results to help shape our journey forward and be more responsive to your needs. We wrapped this in the blanket of our Renew My Church efforts. Examples of some of the things we put in place:

- Created 2-sided Banners reminding us, when entering and going forth, that we are disciples who belong, journey, celebrate, and witness together.
- Added new and easier entry points into our faith community including the Alpha program.
- Held Advent and Lent gatherings to help grow our understanding of our faith and deepen our relationship with Jesus.
- Focused on how our Sunday experience can move us forward in discipleship.
- Connected our Parish Council and ministries directly to our spiritual goals and mission.
- Added more variety in our music experience.

After 3 years, we want you, and all those who have joined us since, to reflect on your own spiritual growth and tell us about our parish's efforts to help you grow in relationship with Christ. The first step along this journey is to assess our greatest opportunities and strengths.

I am excited to announce that beginning Ash Wednesday, we are again offering the DMI survey designed to:

- Invite parishioners to reflect on their journey of discipleship.
- Help parishioners grow in their faith.
- Enable Parish leadership to make data-driven decisions.

The 10–15-minute survey will be accessible through an online link. All responses will be confidential, and the Parish will receive only aggregate community information. Paper surveys will also be available for those who cannot complete the survey online. Together, we will identify our strengths and opportunities in greater detail as we strive to grow as missionary disciples.

We need you and look forward to your participation. Together, let us grow more fully into a culture where we regularly encounter Christ and invite others into a relationship with him. Thank you!

In Christ,

Father Chris