## WIBRANCY



## WE GET WHERE YOU'RE AT.

You've heard this word used over and over again to describe what your parish should look like.

But after two years of research, we've come to the conclusion that this word is both incredibly overused, and terribly misunderstood.

VIBRANCY IS NOT ABOUT

The Numbers
The Priest
The Music

**VIBRANCY IS** 

A Culture of Openness and Understanding.

## Diving Deeper.

Just because the number of parishioners and the amount of giving are growing does not mean the parish is vibrant. Demographics, merging parishes, new residential developments, and adding a school all lead to higher numbers without any change in a parish.

Similarly, just because a church has a well liked priest with an infectious personality, or a high end music ministry team, or even an infinite amount of ministries and programs, does not make that parish vibrant.

The single purpose of a parish is to bring people who want, no matter where they are in their journey, to be one step closer to Jesus. It is that simple. Anything else is a distraction.

A **vibrant** parish recognizes that there are different spiritual profiles in our congregation. Some are traditional, some are relational, some are contemplative, some are doers and some are intellectuals. All equally important and require support in their journeys.

A vibrant parish has a common and simple focus on what matters and what does not. It is simply a conscientious effort by all those in leadership to focus their efforts on bringing people closer to Jesus and being open to change in the pursuit thereof.

The fruits of a **vibrant** parish are often increased numbers, higher giving, the engagement of many, and a general sense of "people caring about people," but these are the fruits, not the tree itself.