

**Bulletin Article for Holy Cross, Our Mother of Sorrows, St. Charles Borromeo, St. John the Evangelist,
St. Lawrence, St. Leo the Great, St. Mark**

Weekend of 5/20-5/21/23

Pastoral Planning: Sharing Our Reality—Our Parishes' Weekend Mass Attendance

We often focus on a “priest shortage” but we also have a “parishioner shortage.” The 7 parishes in our area currently have about 3400 people at Mass on a typical weekend. In contrast, in 2011 we had 8400—a 60% decrease. Our attendance—like that across the diocese and elsewhere—has been declining throughout the 2000’s, but Covid greatly accelerated that trend. We have fewer people worshipping, engaging in the work of the church, paying the bills. ***When was the last time you invited someone to come to Mass with you or you shared your love of the Mass and Eucharist with people in your life?*** Mass attendance and church capacity numbers for our individual parishes are available at <https://holycrossrochester.org/index.php/taskforce> or from your parish office.