



*We are called to be witnesses of
Christ to the world.*

**WE ARE HIS
WITNESSES**

Pastoral Conversion Initiative of the Archdiocese

Dear Parishioners and members of OLMC faith community!

On January 6, 2025 Archbishop Cardinal Joseph Tobin published a Pastoral Letter to all the Clergy, Religious and Lay Faithful of the Archdiocese of Newark and asked that we make it available to all parishioners, which can be viewed in its entirety on our website (www.olmclyndhurst.com) as well as on the archdiocese website (<https://rcan.org/?s=we+are+his+witnesses>). The letter will also be available in a hard copy format in the church, discussing the vibrant and diverse Catholic community that comprises the 4 counties of the Archdiocese of Newark. It addresses where the archdiocese is today, where God is calling us to go for the future and how we as disciples and witnesses of Christ can get there together so that we can proclaim the joy of the Gospel to others here at home now and in the future. Cardinal Tobin goes on to say that to address these many questions, the archdiocese is embarking on a multi-year initiative which he is calling **“WE ARE HIS WITNESSES.”** The Archbishop firmly believes that to move forward into the future, “we cannot leave things as they presently are.” He is eager to hear the voices of all the people in the archdiocese concerning the opportunities and challenges we face as a Church both now and the future. To begin this process each of us (every member of the parish including our youth that has been confirmed) is being asked to participate in a **confidential** survey called the “Disciple Maker Index (DMI).” Our Parish has established a core team of parishioners, A Parish Point of Contact and five team members to assist us in this endeavor. They will be my parish liaisons and coworkers to accomplish this task. It is important that you all take part in DMI survey.

DISCIPLE MAKER INDEX

All 220 parishes in the Newark Archdiocese are participating in this survey. The goal of this survey is to help Church leaders recognize their parish potential and envision future possibilities through an analysis of attitude and belief, participation, relationship/satisfaction, and demographics. The results will provide the archdiocese with a baseline to begin work on the “We Are His Witnesses” initiative. It will take each parishioner about 15 min online (for those who don’t have access to a computer, we will have paper surveys available.) The survey will be live to all via a link on April 26 and will close on May 25. You will be receiving more information on how to log in through an email and various reminders throughout the 4 week period. I ask that each member of your family which includes children who have received Confirmation take the survey. The more participation we have at Mt Carmel the better we’ll be to make future decisions for our parish. I would like to thank each one of you in advance for taking part and committing time to this initiative as it is vital for the future of our archdiocese and her parishes.

Peace,

Fr. Ernie