



GO FORTH

The Monthly Email Newsletter from the Offices of the
Archdiocese of Dubuque Pastoral Center



**Journey
in Faith**

Trust. Transform. Together.

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If you have not been receiving this monthly email from the Dubuque office and wish to receive it, please call the office at 732-4342 and give Jill your email address so that we can forward it to the Dubuque office. There is always a letter from Archbishop Zinkula and several other pages of interesting stories.

Below is the first page of the February 2026 issue which was received yesterday. It has information about our “Journey in Faith” process.

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As we begin the holy season of Lent, we enter once again into a time of prayer, reflection and renewal—a time to draw nearer to Christ and allow His grace to transform our hearts. This sacred season invites us to trust more deeply in God’s plan for our lives and for His Church. It is in that same spirit of faith and trust that I share this latest update on our *Journey in Faith*.

Over the past months, your steadfast prayers, thoughtful feedback, and deep love for your parishes have continued to guide our discernment. The Archdiocesan *Journey in Faith* Planning Commission and our priests have each met again to review and offer additional insights on the final pastoral plan. With their guidance, and in light of all we have heard from thousands of parishioners, the *Journey in Faith* Core Team and I are now prayerfully discerning how best to structure our Archdiocese into pastorates—groupings of parishes that will collaborate more closely in mission and ministry.

Please know that no parishes will be closed or merged in July. However, there will be changes to priest assignments, Mass schedules and to how parishes share staff, ministries and outreach. These adjustments will help us serve one another more effectively and ensure that every parish remains vibrant and mission-focused.

We expect to announce the final pastorate plan this spring. At that time each parish will know which parishes they will be working with, and the pastor and parochial vicars assigned to their pastorate to accompany them in the next phase of this journey.

I also want to offer special gratitude to our deacons, who have been called upon again and again to take on additional duties and responsibilities over the past few months. Their faithful and joyful service is a true witness to Christ the Servant, and they have been an incredible blessing to our Archdiocese.

As we walk together through Lent, may our hearts be open to the movement of the Holy Spirit—renewing our faith, deepening our unity, and guiding us toward Easter joy and resurrection hope.

Please visit dbqjourneyinfaith.org for ongoing updates, accurate information and resources to help you stay connected.

Thank you for your faith, patience and trust. May this Lent be a time of grace and growth for all of us.

Walking with you on this *Journey in Faith*,

Archbishop Thomas Zinkula