

Second of Three Feasibility Study Feedback Updates: Insights and Social Action



Dear Old St. Pat's Community,

Staying informed and having opportunities to share input are important parts of being a member of this vibrant community. I am grateful for the ways your passion, dedication, and expertise build up Old St. Pat's.

Since the feasibility study last spring, there have been many conversations and community gatherings as we continue to shape our renewed mission and vision and ensure our ministry and programming offer vibrant ways to draw together our community and significantly advance that mission and vision.

Just last week, I had the privilege of gathering with more than 50 ministry leaders from across Old St. Pat's for a synodal conversation about how we can fully embody our new Vision: **"Live our Faith. Heal the World."** The evening was filled with energy. It was a joy to hear how each ministry brings this vision to life in their unique way while remaining rooted in our shared mission.

Over the past year, our commitment to **transformative kinship** has continued to grow. What began as a focused partnership with North Lawndale has now expanded to encompass all of our social action and corporal works of mercy. We remain dedicated to the North Lawndale community, and were honored to welcome leaders from some of our key partner organizations to last week's dinner and conversation. And we celebrate the Old St. Pat's members who joined yesterday's Lawndale 5K!

Old St. Pat's staff have heard your desire to better understand what this expanded sense of kinship means, and we're grateful for your curiosity and engagement. Going forward, our outreach efforts will be coordinated through the revitalized **St. Vincent de Paul Society** at Old St. Pat's. Old St. Patrick's was the home of the first Chicagoland St. Vincent de Paul Society in the 1850s, and it now returns with a dedicated, member-led board.

This leadership team is actively collaborating with other St. Vincent de Paul conferences and downtown faith-based organizations to determine how we can have the greatest impact. They are currently exploring three areas of particular focus:

1. Supporting West Loop neighbors experiencing homelessness
2. Coordinating annual drives such as the Giving Tree and Blood Drive
3. Facilitating ongoing kinship between Old St. Pat's members and North Lawndale neighbors

If you're interested in joining our **Kinship Initiative** or learning more about the **St. Vincent de Paul Society**, we'd love to hear from you: bit.ly/QSP-kinship-form

The leadership team remain committed to keeping you informed and welcome your ongoing feedback. Please reach out to us at info@oldstpats.org with any thoughts, questions, or ideas. We are only Old St. Patrick's together, and your voice matters as we continue to shape our path forward.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. Pat". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Fr. Pat

