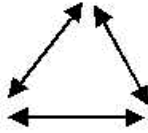


# The Benedictine Promise: Overall Parish Assessment

The three elements of the Benedictine Promise, and the whole of Benedictine spirituality, can help us see some of the hidden dynamics of parish life.

**CONVERSION OF LIFE** As a parish we find God on our journey together and in the new places we will go as a parish; in losing life to find life; in our openness to transformation.



**STABILITY** As a parish we find God here and now in the relationships and pattern of our life together.

**OBEDIENCE** As a parish we find God as we listen deeply to the world; to Scriptures; to the church, now and through the ages; to each other; to the creation; and to the deepest longings and prayer of our heart.

## Look at the dynamics of parish life

<p>What is the predisposition you see in the parish's behavior toward stability, change, or listening processes? Which direction do we generally tilt towards? Which is our anxiety often focused upon?</p>	
<p>In the parish's expression of stability, conversion of life, and obedience what seems healthy to you, what unhealthy? Is the stability simply being static? Is the conversion simply being driven by an impulse to change? Is the obedience endless listening and process or too little listening?</p>	

How are we doing in develop a parish culture that is marked by:

<b>Stability</b> – Especially seen in Liturgy, prayer and relationships.	<b>Very Weak</b>	<b>Very Strong</b>
<b>Obedience</b> – Seen in our openness to listen to, and respond to, one another, our bishop and the larger church.	<b>Very Weak</b>	<b>Very Strong</b>
<b>Conversion of Life</b> – Out of our life of stability or obedience we see and act on new challenges and opportunities for mission and building up the Body of Christ.	<b>Very Weak</b>	<b>Very Strong</b>

My initial thoughts about next steps: