



Roman Catholic Diocese of
Fall River
Southeastern MA • Cape Cod • The Islands



**The Stronger Priests,
Stronger Parishes,
Stronger Church Initiative**
2025-2027

A Time for Fortitude

A MIDPOINT UPDATE

RENEWAL IS TAKING ROOT

Greater priestly wellbeing. Stronger fraternity. Renewed hope.



“If we want stronger parishes tomorrow, what should we invest in today? The answer was clear: our priests.”

BISHOP EDGAR DA CUNHA

WHAT IT IS

A three-year effort to strengthen priestly life—and, through our priests, renew our parishes and local Church.

SIGNS OF RENEWAL



GREATER HOPE & MORALE

Priests are expressing greater hope, stronger morale and renewed confidence in their ministry.



IMPROVED WELLBEING

Priests are experiencing healthier patterns of life and fewer wellness struggles.



STRONGER PRIESTLY FRATERNITY

Intentional time together is deepening relationships, strengthening trust and reducing isolation.



A MORE SUPPORTIVE CHURCH

Priests are experiencing greater encouragement, care and support from the wider Church.

These encouraging signs point to a healthier presbyterate—and a stronger foundation for the future of our parishes.

WHAT'S COMING

LENT 2027: ONE CHURCH

Living Christ's Mission Together

A five-week parish formation experience with video, conversation and local application.



CHURCH

The Body of Christ and Family of God



VOCATION

Ordained priesthood and the baptismal call



MISSION

Communion, stewardship and shared responsibility



“There is a real sense that the Bishop values the priests and has made a commitment to help us be strengthened ... It gives everyone hope that we are moving in the right direction.”

FR. MATT LAIRD | PASTOR, ST. ANN'S PARISH, RAYNHAM

WATCH THE MIDPOINT VIDEO

See the story—and what comes next. →



Stronger priests. Stronger parishes. A stronger, holier Church.

fallriverdiocese.org

