

S.W.O.T. Open Forum

St Raphael Orthodox Church

722 E College Street, Iowa City



STEWARDSHIP
CALLING

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**Let's Set the Stage of the
St Raphael Process**



Tonight's Objective

Identify your suggested Parish Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities or Threats



Download This Presentation:

Stewardship Calling

What are you doing with all of the gifts God has given you?

WHY?

STEWARDSHIP

STRATEGIC PLANNING

INTERNET RADIO & PODCASTS

KEYNOTES & LEADERSHIP

RESOURCES

PERSONAL

BOSTON METROPOLIS –
THRIVING CONGREGATIONS
TRAINING PROGRAMS ON
PARISH STRATEGIC PLANNING

SAMPLE S.M.A.R.T GOAL &
ACTION PLANS

O

METROPOLIS OF BOSTON –
FOUR PARISH STRATEGIC PLAN

WARREN, OH – ST DEMETRIOS
STRATEGIC PLAN

SAINTS RAPHAEL, NICHOLAS &
IRENE – CUMMING, GA

ST. RAPHAEL – IOWA CITY

CHRIST THE SAVIOUR –
HARRISBURG, PA

HOLY TRINITY GOC – GRAND
RAPIDS, MI.

Raphael
Orthodox Church

1000 E. 10th Street, Iowa City

St. Raphael – Iowa City

Below is the Power

to solicit their per

Raphael Orthodox

offered to the entire community December 17, 2023

Weaknesses, Opportunities & Threats (SWOT) of the St

Iowa City

[StewardshipCalling.com](https://stewardshipcalling.com)


[Strategic Planning Tab](#)

[St Raphael- Iowa City Page](#)

<https://stewardshipcalling.com/st-raphael-iowa-city/>

A Big Question



A black fedora hat is positioned at the top center of the image, appearing to float. Below it, the upper portion of a mannequin is visible, dressed in a dark suit jacket, a white dress shirt, and a striped tie. The background is a textured, light gray wall.

If St. Raphael Orthodox Church ceased
to exist; would anyone in our
community miss us?

A large, leafy tree dominates the center of the frame. In the foreground, a person is sitting in a green folding chair, looking towards the right. The background shows a grassy area with a wooden fence, a blue canopy, a red car, and other trees. The scene is bright and sunny.

“A society grows great when old men and women plant trees in whose shade they shall never sit.”

Greek Proverb



**“For everyone
to whom
much is given,
from him
much will be
required; and
to whom
much has
been
committed, of
him they will
ask the more.”**

(Luke 12:48)

WHY Are You Here?

The most critical question each person, parish and ministry must answer.



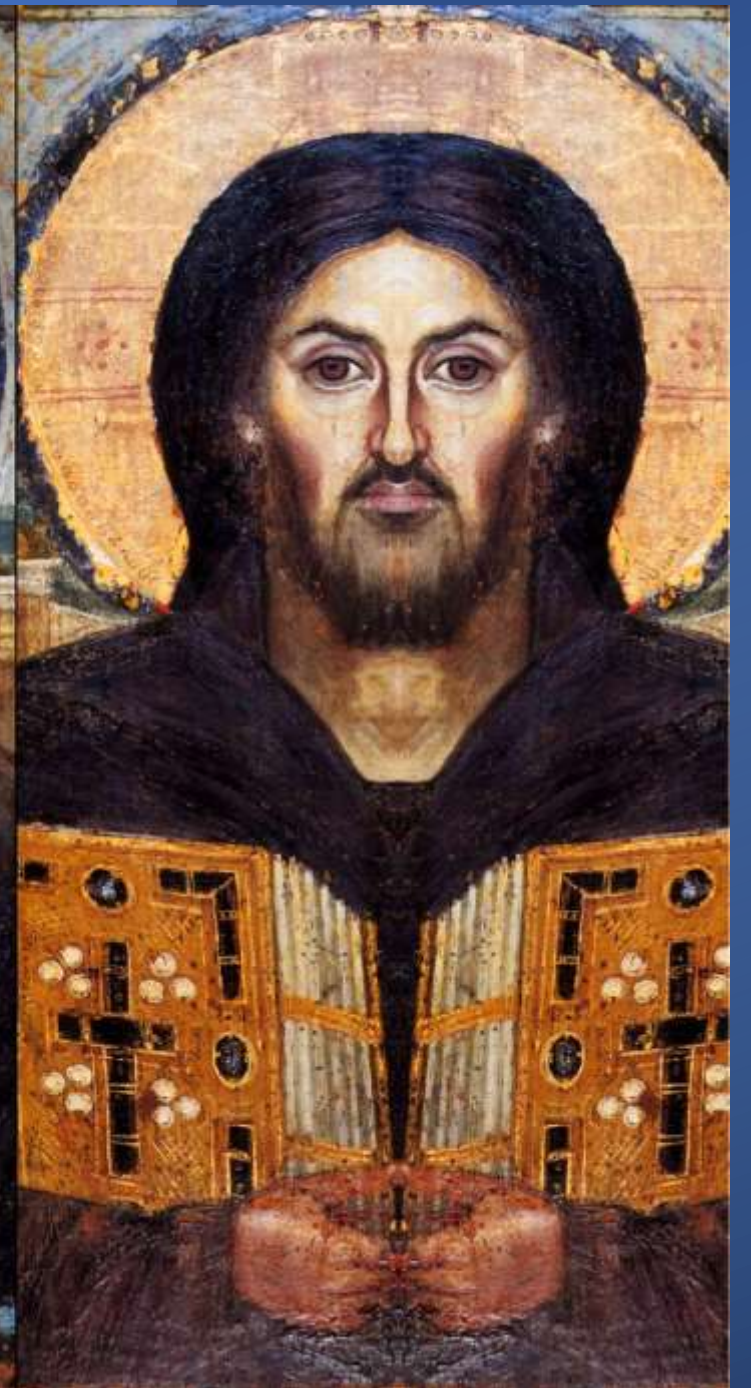
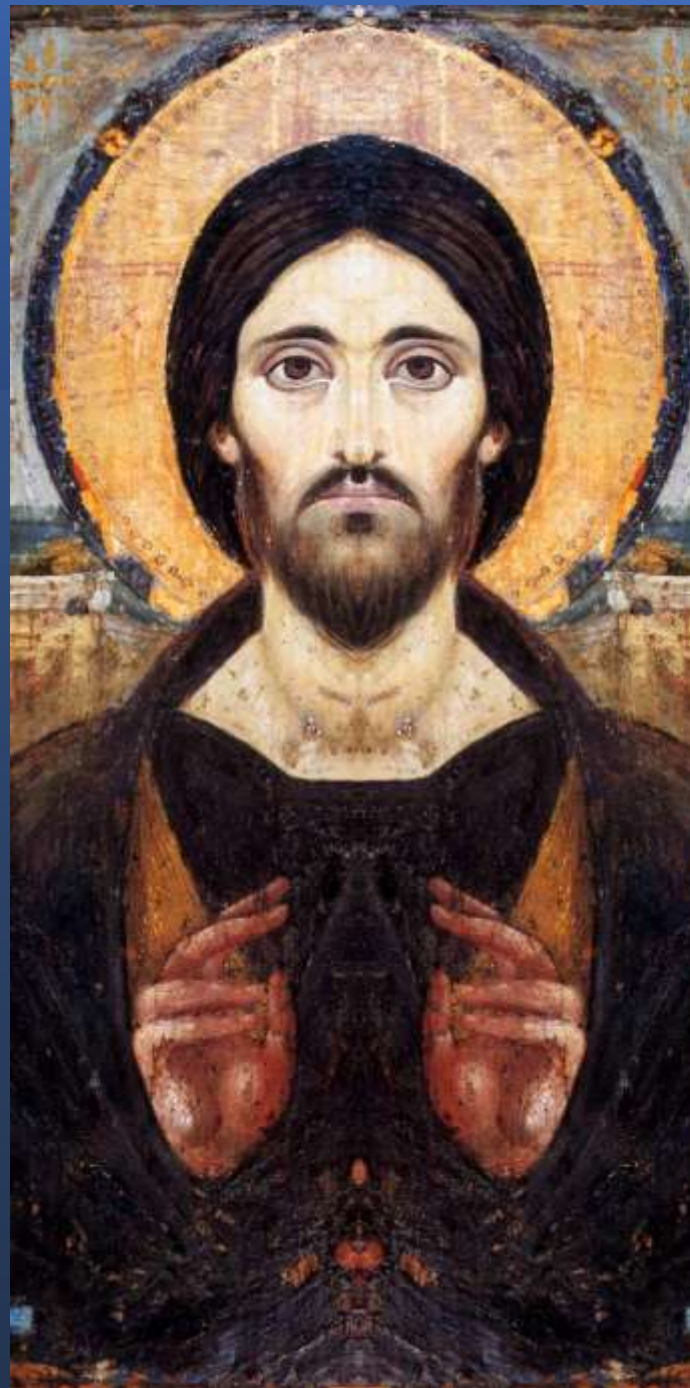


**“That the end of
our lives may be
Christian, without
pain, blameless
and peaceful,
and for a
GOOD ACCOUNT
before the
AWESOME
JUDGMENT SEAT
of CHRIST.”**

2 Corinthians 5:10

Orthodox Divine Liturgy

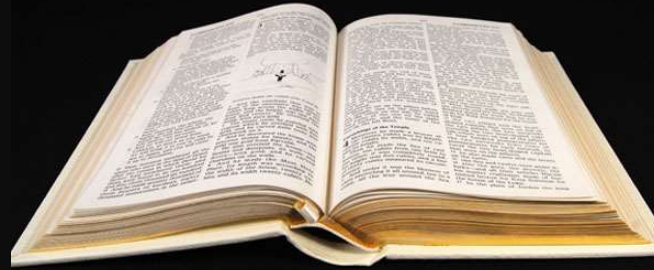
Christ's
possible
very
difficult
question
to you



What did you do for My church and people, under your watch, given all the gifts I gave you ?



Church Vision Planning is Biblical





**Where
there is no
vision , the
people will
perish.**

Proverbs 29:18

Church Vision & Planning is:



A process to help manage the “busyness” of our Parish without turning our Parish into a “business.”

The Stewardship Calling Process has been used to complete Plans covering over 26% of Orthodox Christians



GOA
Metropolis
of San
Francisco



GOA
Metropolis
of Atlanta



Ukrainian
Orthodox
Church of
the USA



GOA
Metropolis
of
Chicago



Orthodox
Christian
Prison
Ministry



Recently Completed Strategic Plans:

- OCA Diocese of New England
- OCA Diocese of Midwest
- St. Demetrios (Saginaw, MI)
- Holy Trinity (Indianapolis, IN)
- Christ the Saviour (Harrisburg, PA)
- Holy Trinity (Grand Rapids, MI)

- St. John The Divine (Jacksonville FL)
- St. Mary (Wichita, KS)
- St. John The Baptist (Beaverton, OR)
- St. Nicholas (Ann Arbor, MI)
- Sts. Mark, Mary, Philopater (Troy, MI)
- Annunciation Cathedral (Atlanta, GA)
- St. Nicholas (Grand Rapids, MI)

Strategic Plans In Progress:

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| St Nicholas (Lexington, MA) | Dormition of the Theotokos – (Sommerville, MA) |
| St. Luke (E. Longmeadow, MA) | Holy Trinity (Concord, NH) |
| St. Demetrios (Warren, OH) | Sts. Raphael, Nicholas & Irene (Cumming, GA) |
| St. Sophia (Jefferson, PA) | |

Vision & Planning must answer 4 questions:

1. Where are we now?

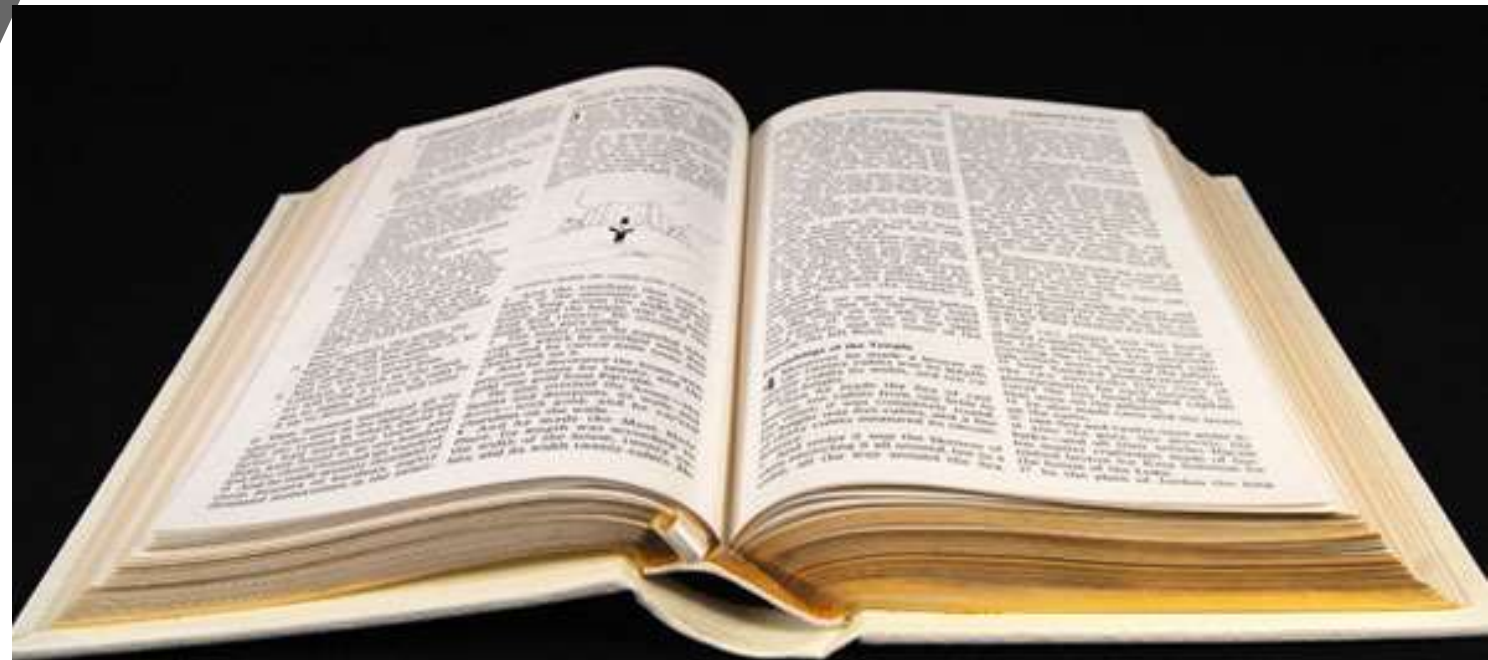
2. Why do we exist?

3. Where do we want to be?

4. How will we get there?

A S.W.O.T.¹ Analysis is Biblical

SWOT¹
Strengths
Weaknesses
Opportunities
Threats



***“Examine
yourselves as to
whether you are
in the faith.***

Test yourselves!”

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{5}y - \frac{2}{3}x - \frac{2}{3}y + \frac{1}{2}x \\ &= \frac{\overset{3}{\cancel{3}} \cdot \frac{1}{\cancel{5}}y - \overset{5}{\cancel{5}} \cdot \frac{2}{\cancel{3}}y - \frac{\overset{2}{\cancel{2}} \cdot \frac{2}{\cancel{3}}x + \frac{\overset{3}{\cancel{3}} \cdot \frac{1}{\cancel{2}}x}{}} \\ &= \frac{3}{15}y - \frac{10}{15}y - \frac{4}{6}x + \frac{3}{6}x \\ &= \frac{-7}{15}y - \frac{1}{6}x \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

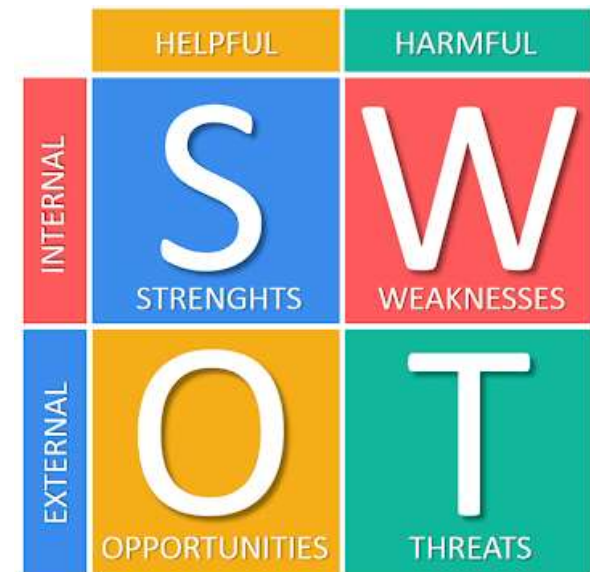
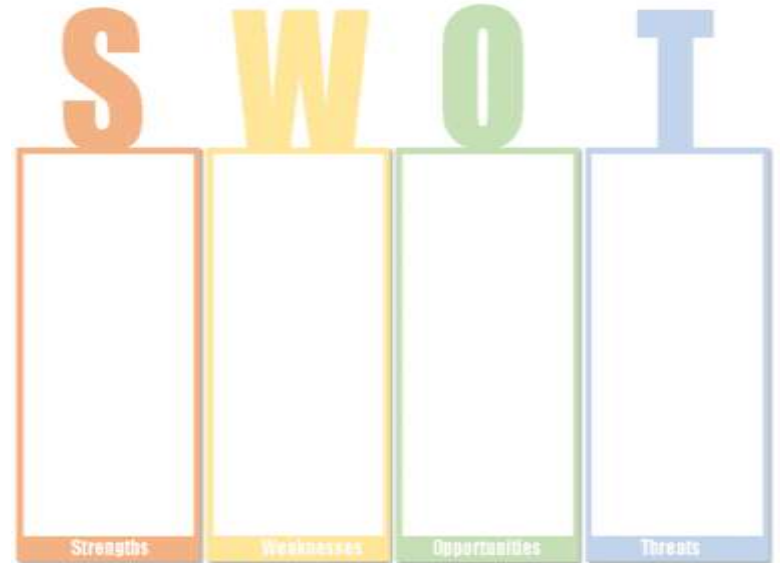
2 Corinthians 13:5

~ Answers vision & planning question #2:

Where are we now?

~ First focus on INTERNAL Parish Strengths and Weaknesses

~ Second focus on EXTERNAL Opportunities and Threats that our Parish faces



Strengths and Weaknesses

- (a) Strengths include things we do well and characteristics that give us advantages
- (b) Weaknesses include things we do poorly or challenges that place us at a disadvantage



Opportunities and Threats
outside of our Parish that
could affect us

(a) Opportunities include
external things outside of our
control that could help us

(b) Threats include external
things outside of our control
that could cause trouble for
us

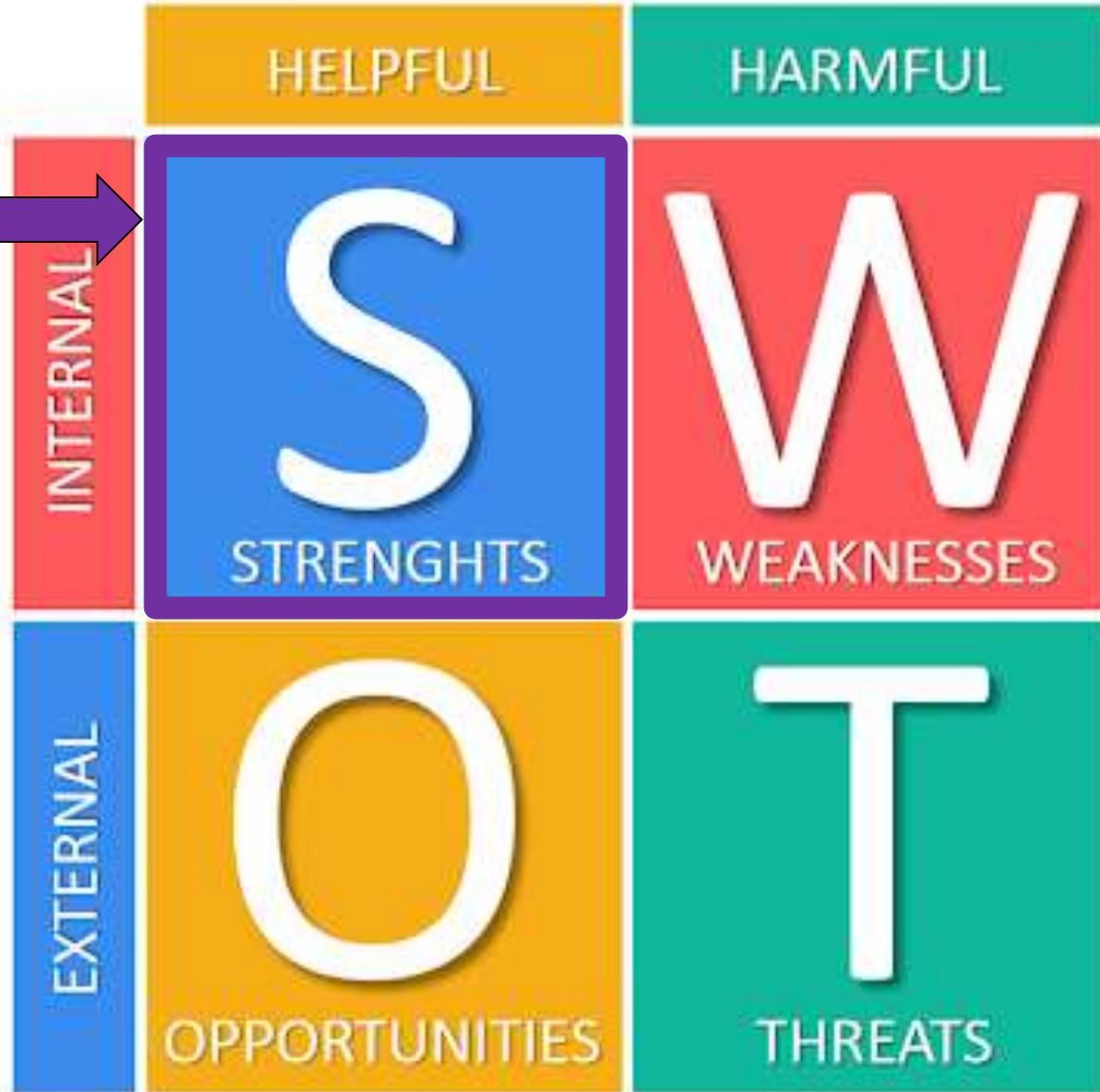


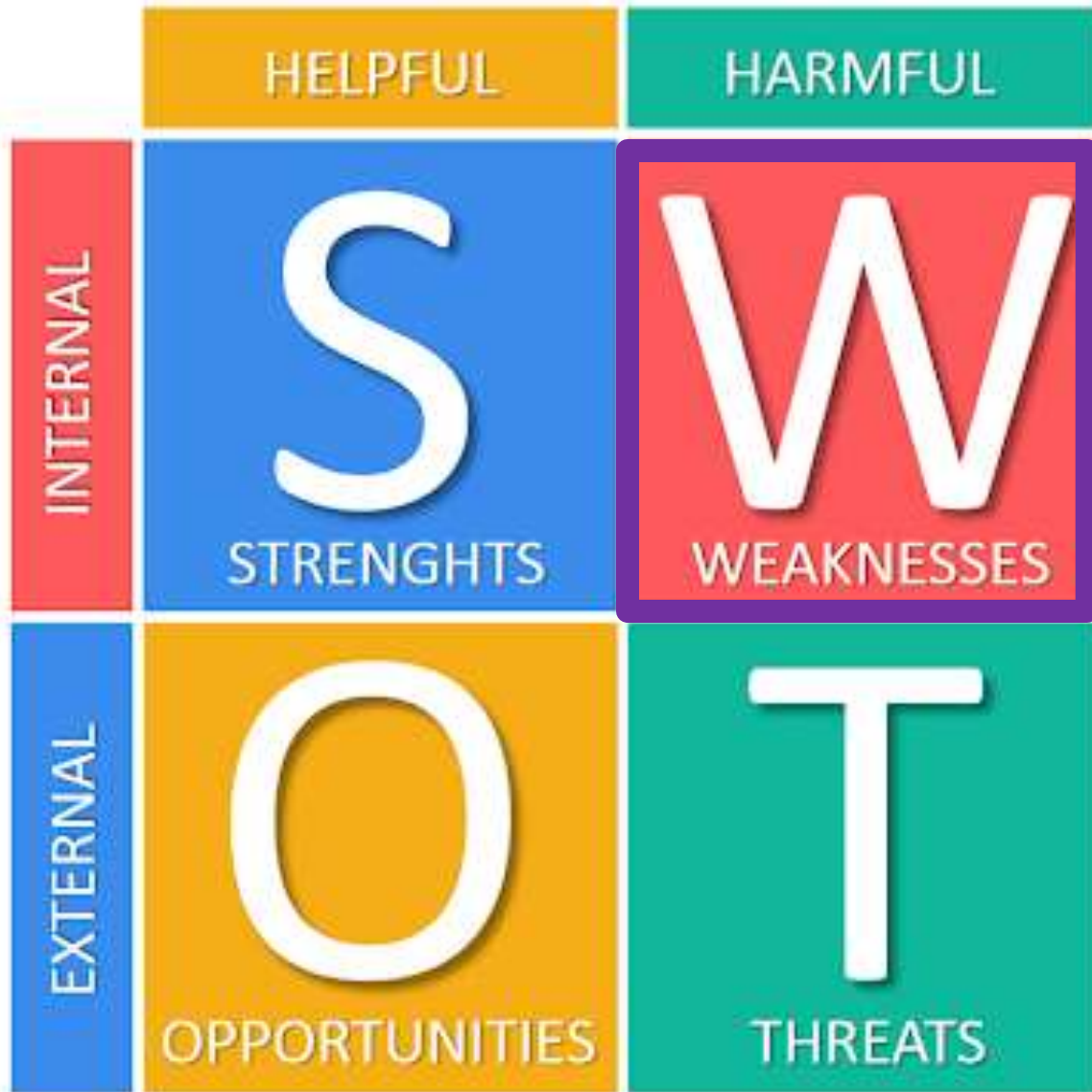
Today's Process

P.S. You should also submit a written S.W.O.T. analysis before 12-24-23

- 1. We'll discuss Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities & Threats one at a time**
- 2. Please speak once on each topic**
- 3. We will NOT discuss/debate in this forum since we are merely trying to gather your input and raw data**
- 4. Please be as succinct as possible in what you say as you identify your key point(s)**
- 5. We will include all of your comments in the final SWOT analysis**
- 6. Remember, that Opportunities and Threats must be EXTERNAL to our Parish**

STRENGTHS

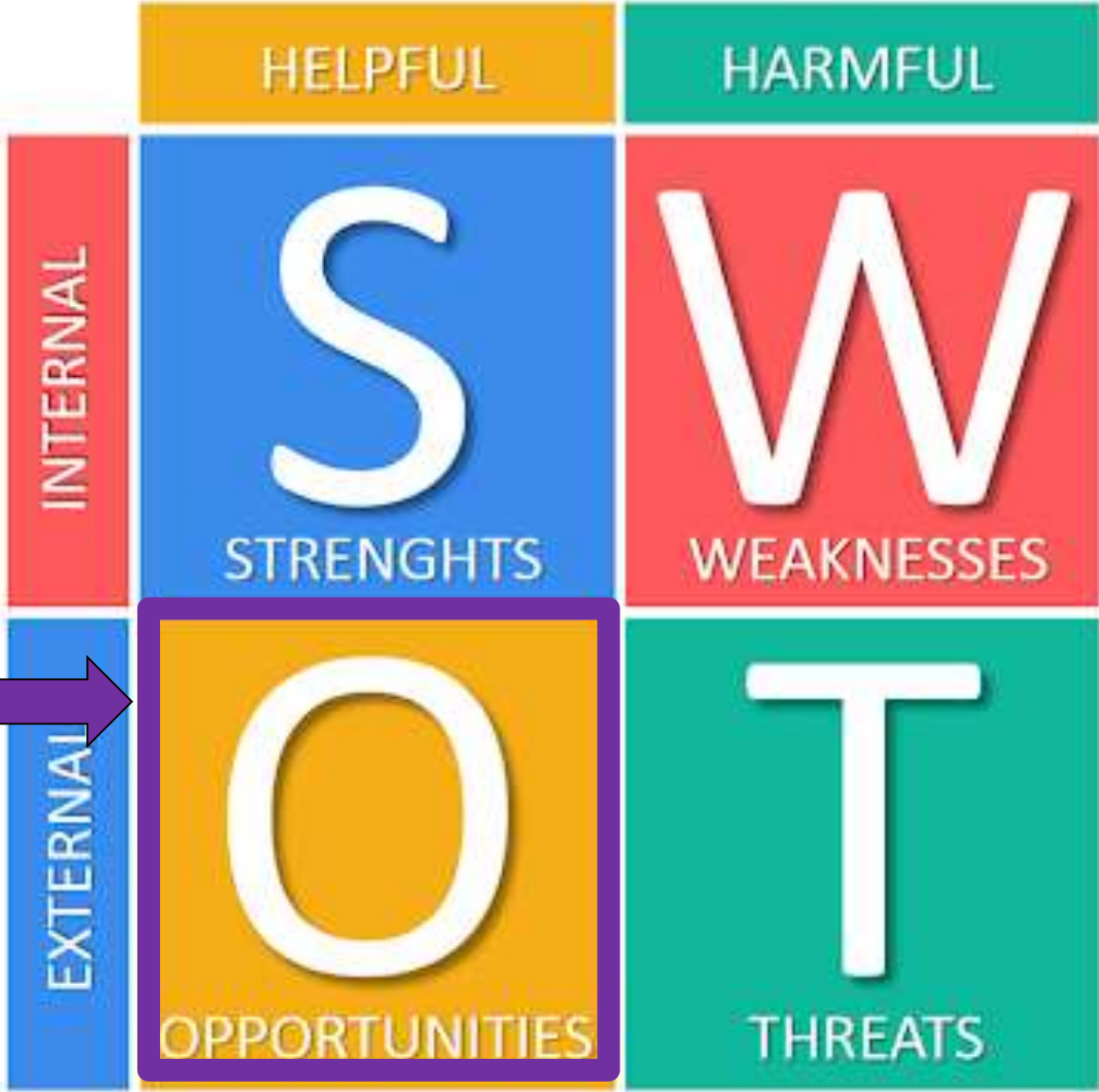


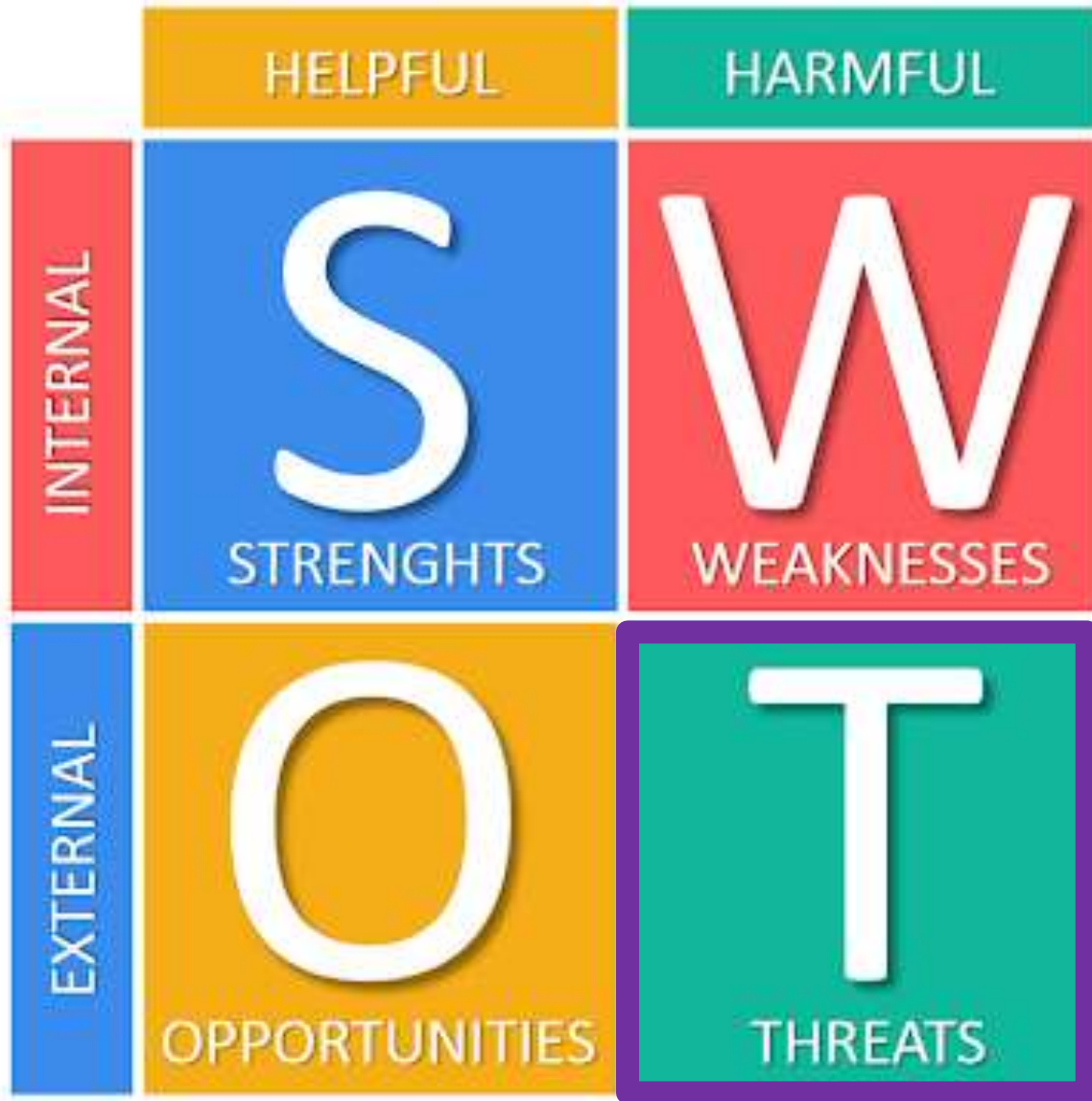


WEAKNESSES



OPPORTUNITIES





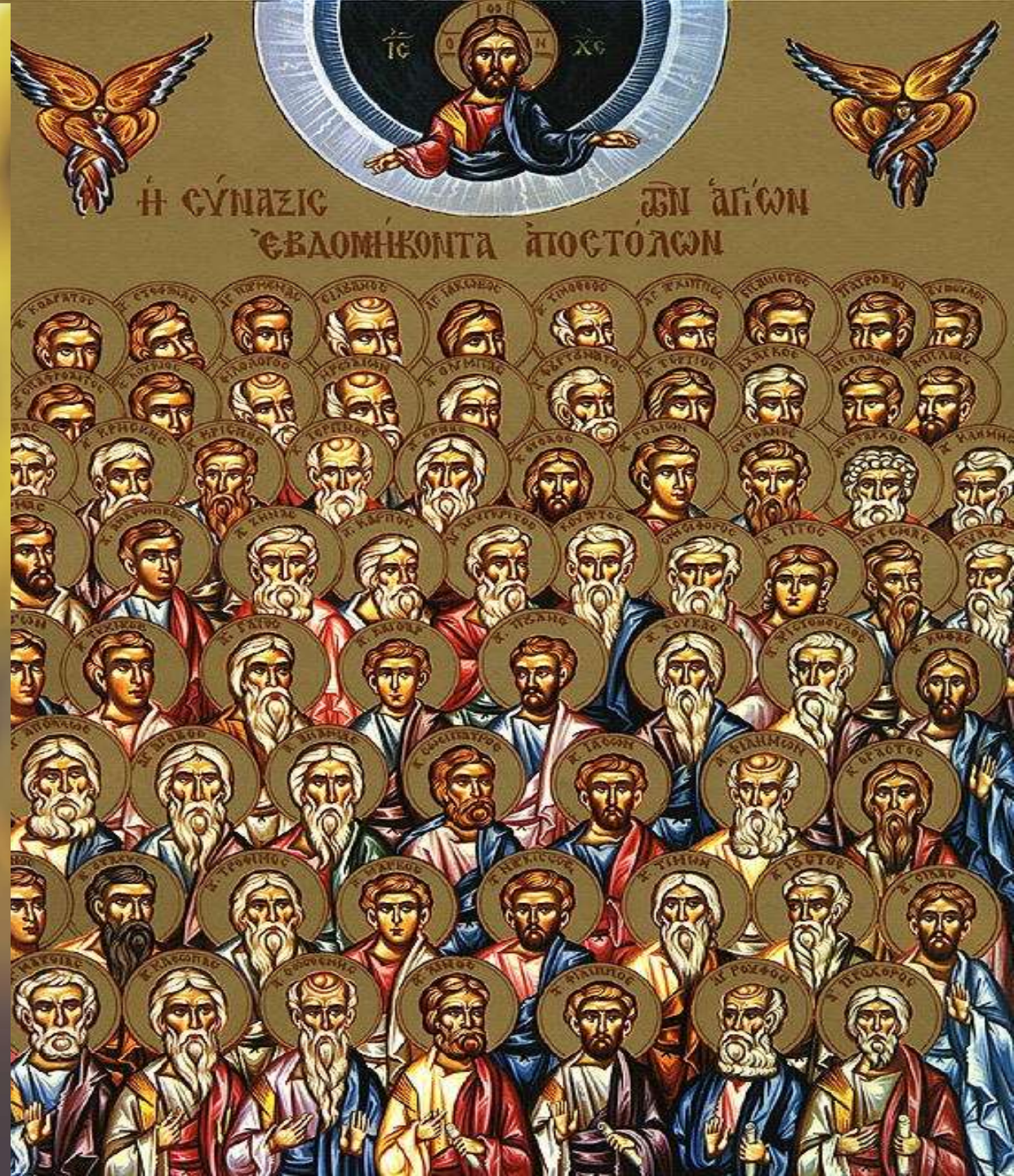
THREATS



You have now
been called as
one of the 70
Disciples



Luke 10:1



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