

What is the CAT?

The Congregation Assessment Tool (CAT) is a reliable benchmarked instrument designed to provide an in-depth look at the experiences, perceptions and aspirations of a church's congregation. It is an essential step for any church in leadership transition or undertaking strategic planning. The CAT is administered by Holy Cow! Consultants, an Ohio-based Church Consulting firm which uses Organizational Intelligence (OI) to help Church leaders chart a well-informed future for their congregations. OI offers leaders a comprehensive, three dimensional view rather than a patchwork of opinions and guesses. More information can be found at <https://holycowconsulting.com>.

The CAT is a customizable assessment instrument that can help a congregational leadership:

- Measure the level of satisfaction and energy in the congregation you lead.
- Identify the critical success factors for improving organizational climate.
- Pinpoint the strengths of the congregation's culture.
- Discover where members would like to go in the future.
- Gauge readiness for change.
- Uncover potential resources they may be missing.
- Prepare for a search for a new next pastor or priest.

The diocese of Atlanta has trained Interpreters for the CAT, and they serve as Consultants to parishes that use the CAT for future planning. The Office of Congregational Vitality requires all congregations that are planning to participate in the College for Congregational Development to take the CAT as an initial step.

If you are interested in learning more about the CAT or other offerings from the Office of Congregational Vitality, please contact the Canon for Ministry Development at jthompsonquarley@episcopatlanta.org or call 404-601-5353.