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The warning was loud and clear

by Tom Roberts

12th in the series

For Catholics reading the signs of the times 20 years ago, the warning was loud and clear: the church was heading toward big problems because of the priest shortage. Most of us ignored the warnings. The bishops clearly wished the bad news would go away.

Sister of St. Joseph Christine Schenk got moving. Using the new data being compiled by top notch Catholic researchers, she began educating the community far and wide. She was more than a harbinger of doom. She and the organization she represented, FutureChurch, were mining church history and our sacred texts for alternatives that would preserve the integrity of individual Catholic communities, as well as our Eucharistic tradition. I caught up with Schenk in Cleveland earlier this year.

Read the full story: [A map to the future church](#)

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