

Task Team
Priority: Steeped in Mercy

Our Vision

To live a Christ-centered fellowship, on fire with the love of God and neighbor, to see individuals, families, parishes, and our schools working together to build up the Kingdom of God in West Tennessee.

Our Mission

Living the anointed life in Word and Sacrament.

Priority

Steeped in Mercy: Bound through our Eucharistic Life, we follow the Lord Jesus in sharing sacrificially, especially with the least, and the last, and the lost.

Suggested Ideas

Action Step #1: The Task Team will request an invitation to the Diocesan Pastoral Council to introduce the Steeped in Mercy initiative. With their support, we hope to identify an outreach representative at participating parishes. These representatives will provide the initial team of a Diocesan Steeped in Mercy Committee. The task force will establish a line of communication with the Diocesan Steeped in Mercy Task Team members to plan future meetings and events. The task force will create an initial list of parish outreach representatives.

Accountability: Steeped in Mercy Task Team members, Diocesan Pastoral Council

Timeline: June 1, 2025

Cost - \$0.00

Action Step #2: Each Dean will be contacted to encourage the establishment of an Steeped in Mercy Committee within each Deanery. These committees will include a representative from each of their participating parishes that serve in an outreach capacity. Presentations about “Catholic teaching on serving others” will be introduced first to the deans and then will be offered to the Deanery outreach committees and eventually to parishes. These presentations are offered as a guide to enhance discussions about service and encourage participation in events. With the Deans’ approval, at least 1 or 2 task force members will meet with each Steeped in Mercy Committee to offer ‘parish outreach training’ that might include existing videos or share best practices within our Diocese for projects or panel discussions on Catholic teaching.

Accountability: Diocesan Pastoral Council, Deans, Parish pastoral councils, parish pastors and task force members.

Cost - Up to \$500 estimate

Completion date: December 1, 2025

Action Step #3: The outreach volunteer/committee members in each parish will use the resources provided to foster collaboration activities with interreligious groups. Outreach task force members will serve as resources for ongoing community discussions and service projects. At least two times per year, one member of the task force will contact each parish outreach representative to ask about future projects or to assist in planning for the project.

Each parish outreach volunteer/committee member will be asked to communicate with the Office of Communications or the Office of Pastoral Ministries when an event is planned, so the event can be included on the CDOM website 'Events' page to encourage anyone to participate, as many events require multiple volunteers.

Accountability: Steeped in Mercy Task Team members, parish outreach representatives and Pastors, Office of Communications, Office of Evangelization and Faith Formation/Office of Pastoral Ministries

Cost: \$0.00

Completion Date: December 31, 2025

Action Step 4: Task Force members will make themselves available for panel discussions and service projects as the visible working hands and feet within our Diocese. Some task force members will participate in any Outreach Event where a request has been received by task force members.

Accountability: Task Team members, Dean outreach representatives, Diocesan Ecumenical & Interreligious Officer, Office of Communications and the Bishop's Office.

Cost estimate: up to \$3,000.00 (Estimated travel cost for COC members)

Completion Date: December 31, 2025

Appendix:

The Steeped in Mercy Task Team will compile a list of non-Catholic Churches in our Diocese that align with a commonality of purpose to serve. Additionally, church contact information received from the Ecumenical & Interreligious Officer, Deacon Littleton's list of non-Catholic Churches in our Diocese will be included. The list should include contact names, emails and/or phone numbers of individuals, preferably in an outreach capacity. This list can be shared with our Diocesan Steeped in Mercy Task Team members.

Accountability: Task Team members

Cost: \$0.00

Completion Date: June 1, 2025