

Task Team
Priority: Eucharistic Life

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

Eucharistic Life: Living a life of prayer, worship, and thanksgiving, and celebrating the Sacraments of Christ with reverence and fervor, born of the Holy Spirit's presence within us.

Suggested Ideas

Action Step #1: Include time for prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in all educational functions of the diocese (e.g. R.C.I.A., Sacramental preparation, religious education, Catholic schools, adult faith formation, etc.).

It is one thing to teach people—children and adults alike—about the Eucharist and quite another to bring them into a Personal Encounter with Our Lord in the Most Holy Eucharist. Most often, the most important places of Encounter are the “hard to reach” places: those places in our lives that we keep hidden in the shadows of our hearts through shame. Those places within our hearts are of the greatest importance precisely because they are the places within us that are most in need of Personal Transformation through Jesus. If our educational initiatives fail to draw students into that Personal Encounter—a Personal Encounter that welcomes Our Eucharistic Lord into those “hard to reach” places—then we have failed. Thus, given that the Most Holy Eucharist is “the Source and Summit of our Faith,” all of our educational initiatives should be ordered around promoting that Personal Encounter. It is strongly encouraged that time should be set aside on a regular basis in our Diocese to bring students into the Real Presence of the Lord (in the Tabernacle when Exposition is unavailable) and to proactively invite students to welcome our Lord into those places in their lives and in their heart, especially those “hard to reach” places where they find it hard to discuss with their family members or friends.

Accountability: Faith Formation Office

Timeline: Either with the new semester (January 2025) or new academic year (August 2025)

Cost: \$0

Action Step #2: Form a group of well-trained liturgists, cantors, and musicians at the diocesan level, that can travel to parishes in the diocese from two to four times per year to host a beautiful Mass, Holy Hour, and/or other Liturgy (e.g. Vespers).

To quote Pope Benedict XVI: “The liturgy is inherently linked to beauty: it is *veritatis splendor* (the splendor of truth).” Many of our faithful have not been exposed to the rich treasury of liturgical beauty within the Deposit of our Faith. This extends to sacred music that has moved souls to Christ since time immemorial: Gregorian Chant and Polyphony. At the heart of all of these liturgical expressions is Our Eucharistic Lord, as the Eucharist is indeed “the Source and Summit of Our Faith.”

As our Diocese accompanies her faithful through this Eucharistic Revival—seeking to stir greater devotion and reverence for the Eucharist—the Church has with this proposal a golden opportunity to draw her faithful into a renewed romance with God, by and through the language of liturgical beauty. It is our hope that parishes will gather with great excitement to experience these expressions of liturgical beauty with the same joy and anticipation that a bride might experience as she awaits her wedding day.

It will be a labor of love for the clergy and laity who come together to make this proposal possible—a labor of love for our Eucharistic Lord and His Bride. And we hope that, by their efforts, they will enkindle anew a fire of love for our Eucharistic Lord, just as the Eucharistic Revival seeks to accomplish.

Accountability: Office of Worship

Timeline: Group could be organized and ready for its first liturgy by Lent/Easter 2025

Cost: Stipend for priest or deacon (\$150 per liturgy), singers (volunteer), director and other musicians (\$150/liturgy), travel expenses, programs, candles, and other miscellaneous items. It is difficult to estimate accurately the cost for each liturgy, but \$1,500-\$2,000 should cover it. We believe that a generous benefactor(s) would be willing to cover the cost of such a worthy effort.

Action Step #3: Schedule a date for the next Diocesan Eucharistic Congress and assemble a team to begin planning it.

Task Team
Priority: Evangelization

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Priority

Evangelization: Born of a Eucharistic Life, we will proclaim the Good News to all in every part of West Tennessee.

Suggested Ideas

Phase One: Provide Formation for Parish Leaders on Best Practices of Evangelization
(1/1/25-11/20/25)

1. One Day “101” Diocesan Overview Workshop on Process of Evangelization and Discipleship for Parish Leaders: Based on Archdiocese of Cincinnati workshop Outlining Discipleship Thresholds and Evangelization Stages taken from Best Practices and Church Documents.

Timeline: February 2025

Accountability OEFF, ESPC

Cost:

2. Half Day “Dig Deeper” Mini Retreats for Parish leaders on Discipleship Threshold: Deeper Dives into Discipleship Thresholds and practical Parish Applications

Timeline: Bi-annually for each Deanery Starting in the Spring of 2025

Accountability; OEFF, ESPC

Cost:

3. Deanery “Collaboration” Leadership Forums: Regular quarterly meetings for prayer, networking, collaboration, and formation.

Timeline: Quarterly for Each Deanery starting in the Fall of 2025

Accountability; OEFF, ESPC

Cost:

4. “Parish Life ” Staff Luncheons: Reflective luncheons designed specifically for parish staff to understand each person's role in evangelization from the janitor to the bookkeeper to the DRE to the Pastor.

Timeline: Yearly per Deanery Starting in the Fall of 2025

Accountability; OEFF, ESPC

Cost:

Phase Two: Collaborate with Parishes to Define Pathways to Missionary Discipleship
(11/21/25-6/1/26)

1. Facilitate Mission-Focused Evangelization Planning Workshops for Individual Parishes: A Discipleship Pathway is a simple, intentional, and integrated process by which the parish meets the spiritual needs of people and facilitates progression along the journey of faith that leads to missionary discipleship. The workshops will lead an individual parish through an assessment and planning process.

Timeline: Per Parish Beginning Advent 2025
Accountability; OEFF, ESPC
Cost:

2. Deanery “Collaboration” Leadership Forums: Regular quarterly meetings for prayer, networking, collaboration, and formation.

Timeline: Advent 2025 Bi-Annually
Accountability; OEFF, ESPC
Cost:

Phase Three: Empower Families as Centers of Evangelization
(6/2/26-12-31-27)

1. Diocesan-Wide Family Camp: Family Camping Experience as a vacation inspired by "Holy Family Fest.”

Timeline: Summer of 2026
Accountability; OEFF, ESPC, Family Camp Committee to be formed
Cost:

2. New Parent Workshop / Retreat: Focused on preparing a Christ-centered home for families expecting their first child or whose first child is pre-toddler aged.

Timeline: Fall of 2025
Accountability; OEFF, ESPC
Cost:

3. Domestic Church Formation Resources and Events: Collections of Pamphlets, Curated Books and websites, workshops, and social events to help in the formation of parish family ministries.

Timeline: Ongoing Spring of 2026,
Accountability; OEFF, ESPC
Cost:

Task Team

Priority: Formation

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Priority

Formation: In the fruitfulness of Eucharistic Life, we commit ourselves and our families to lifelong formation in the apostolic traditions of our faith.

Our Goal: To fill their hearts with the desire for Christ, thereby filling the pews

How to Accomplish: Through Personal Invitations at the Parish Level

Suggested Ideas

- Create a speaker series to focus on issues of parents and young children today as it relates to our Catholic faith.
- Center our meetings around the breaking of bread together as family.
- Focus on parishes initially with the greatest needs.
- Faith Formation will host initial meetings in those parishes above.
- Deacon Pettit and Deacon Drzycimski will train future speakers to go to other parishes to keep the process moving forward allowing parishes to take ownership of their ongoing faith formation plan.
- Work with men's groups and Knights of Columbus to provide low-cost meals for all attendees and families to afford. (\$5-\$8 per meal)
- Keep each session to a maximum of one hour including eating and talks to maintain interest.
- Provide childcare for parents during talks and have children involved in faith lessons on their level while parents are meeting.

The Children are the Ultimate Recipients of the Final Product

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

Task Team
Priority: Unity

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Our Mission

Living the anointed life in Word and Sacrament.

Priority

Unity: Revealed through our Eucharistic Life, we, though many, are one Body in Christ.

- **Year 1:** Compare and contrast secular notions of “diversity” with the diversity seen in the Body of Christ.
- **Year 2:** Implement activities in our parishes and schools that underscore the rich diversity seen in all who are created in the image and likeness of God.
- **Year 3:** Assess and continually renew our response to Christ’s call for unity.

Scripture

“I pray not only for them, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, so that they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that you sent me.

And I have given them the glory you gave me, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may be brought to perfection as one, that the world may know that you sent me, and that you loved them even as you loved me” (John 17: 20-23).

1 Corinthians, The First Letter to the Corinthians | USCCB (1 Corinthians 12-31)

We have come to know and to believe in the love God has for us. God is love, and whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him. We love because he first loved us. If anyone says, ‘I love God,’ but hates his brother, he is a liar; for whoever does not love a brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. This is the commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother” (1 John 4:16, 19-21).

Catechism of the Catholic Church

“This law of human solidarity and charity’, without excluding the rich variety of persons, cultures and peoples, assures us that all men are truly brethren” (CCC 361).

Suggested Ideas

Year 1

Compare and contrast secular notions of “diversity” with the diversity seen in the Body of Christ.

Action Step #1: RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT STAGE

Design a standardized registration form in collaboration with other task force teams to ensure our Diocesan Database will be fed all relevant information needed to better serve our community at all stages of their spiritual, emotional, cultural, intellectual, and physical basic needs.

An addendum will request information regarding members areas of expertise or resources they can contribute to the community (time and talent – immigration services, maintenance and repairs, mental health, ESL, translations, etc.)

Accountability: UNITY Task Force in Conjunction with Pastoral Department and Catholic Charities leaders.

Timeline: Fall of 2024

Estimated Costs: TBD - We would need to make it available to all parishioners throughout in both, digital and paper versions

Action Step #2: WELCOMING ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STAGE

- A.** We would seek to encourage parishioners throughout the diocese to help us update their information on record (or enter it if they are not registered yet) by completing the registration form designed to that effect. -- Non-Catholics who seek and benefit from the different services and programs available to them through Church Organizations would also be encouraged to register at the place of service (catholic charities, food banks, etc.) —

In order to accurately identify and acknowledge the fullness of our diocesan diversity this new registration form will include fields in the following categories: Cultural Heritage (customs, traditions & languages), Stage of life (Age, Education, Occupation, Civic Status, Special Needs), and Spiritual Development & Calling (Sacraments, PRE and Evangelization Courses, Ministry Participation)

- B.** We will train a group of retired volunteers or overtime volunteers (staff with some experience handling parish data files) to help feed the complete and updated information into the diocesan system once it has been upgraded in the near future.

If there are families registered from the old version of this system who did not update their information a second group of volunteers will work on following up with them.

Accountability: Lyssette Candia, Sergio Ali Vazquez, & Karin Starnes (Karin would be training data collectors)

Timeline: January of 2025 – New registration form distributed to all parishes and sent to parishioners.

- AS REGISTRATIONS COME IN BEGIN FEEDING UPDATES INTO UPGRADED SYSTEM
- If paper forms were used, verify against existing files

May to August of 2025 – Follow-up team looks at non updated family files to clean system

Fall of 2025 - Complete Data Entries

Estimated Costs: If parishes with available online registration are able to encourage the majority of their members to do their own update this would save a lot in time and money. Since Diocese is already planning on upgrading the software the additional cost will come from paying volunteer hours (Overtime for volunteering office staff or part-time salary for retired volunteers). It may be costly, but will save the diocese much wasted time and effort in trying to work with expired and duplicated records.



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF MEMPHIS
SAINT ANNE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Cultural Heritage / Herencia Cultural: (Include all that apply / *Incluya todas las que apliquen*)
Country (ies) / País (es) _____
Region / Región _____
State / Estado _____
City / Municipality / Ciudad / Municipio _____
Race / Ethnic Group / Raza / Grupo Étnico _____

Traditions, Devotions, Saints, & Liturgical Celebrations you would like to share with your family of Faith (Your Parish) or things you used to do differently and would help us to understand & serve you better (like the procession of sorrows and joys on Holy week or the advent calendar)
Tradiciones, devociones, santos y celebraciones litúrgicas que le gustaría compartir con su familia de Fe (Parroquia) o cosas que se hacían de manera diferente en su lugar de origen y que nos ayudarían a entenderle y servirle mejor (como las posadas en Adviento, las alfombras de aserrín en Cuaresma, o las celebraciones de Advocaciones Marianas)

Your Family's Mother Tongue / Lengua Materna de su Familia: _____
Language spoken at home / Idioma que se habla en su hogar: _____

Preferred means of Communication / Métodos de Comunicación preferidos:
Parish Bulletin / Bulletin Board / Flock Note / Email / Text Mssg / WhatsApp / Facebook / Other
_____ **Add my email to diocesan distribution list** _____ **I would like to receive the Faith Magazine**
Favor de agregar mi correo a la lista de distribución _____ *Quisiera suscribirme para recibir la revista Faith*

Address / Dirección: _____ Date / Fecha: _____

City, State / Ciudad, Estado: _____ Zip / Código Postal: _____

Home Phone: _____ Permission to Publish Information in Directory: Y / N
Numero de Teléfono de su casa Permiso de Publicar su Información en el Directorio

CENSUS TABLE
Please print clearly
In mold letter

	Head of Household <i>Jefe de Familia</i>	2nd Adult	Adult / Minor	Adult / Minor
Relationship (to head) <i>Relación (con jefe de fam)</i>	M / F -	M / F -	M / F -	M / F -
Last Name (Maiden) <i>Apellidos (de Soltera)</i>				
First Name <i>Nombre de pila</i>				
Date of Birth <i>Fecha de Nacimiento</i>				
Email Address <i>Correo Electrónico</i>				
Cell Phone Number				
Religion / Religión				
Married Status / Estado Civil				
Occupation / Ocupación				
School / Place of Work <i>Escuela / Lugar de Trabajo</i>				
Date of Baptism <i>Fecha de Bautismo</i>				
Place of Baptism / Lugar				
Date of 1st Communion <i>Fecha de Primera Comunión</i>				
Date of Confirmation <i>Fecha de Confirmación</i>				
Religious Marriage Date <i>Fecha de Matrimonio Religioso</i>				

First Name				
What you would like to learn (see available courses) Lo que quisiera aprender (ver cursos disponibles)				
Ministries in which I would like to participate (see List of Ministries) Ministerios en los que me gustaría participar (ver lista de Ministerios)				
Language (s) Lenguajes	Spoken - Que habla Read & Written - Que lee y escribe			
Skills / Talents / Resources you are able & willing to contribute And in what way Habilidades / Talentos Y Recursos que usted puede y desea contribuir y de que manera				
Hobbies / Sports Pasatiempos y Deportes				
Sacramental, Pastoral and other Personal and particular needs Necesidades de Sacramentos, Pastorales, y otras Necesidades Personales				

FAMILY NAME: _____ Head of Household: _____

Best Email Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

CENSUS TABLE Please print clearly In mold letter

	Child M / F -	Child M / F -	Child M / F -	Child M / F -	Child M / F -
Relationship	M / F -	M / F -	M / F -	M / F -	M / F -
Last Name(s) Apellidos					
First Name Nombre (s)					
Date of Birth Fecha d Nacimiento					
School Escuela					
Grade / Grado					
Date of Baptism Fecha de Bautismo					
Place of Baptism Lugar de Bautismo					
Date of 1st Communion					
Date of Confirmation					
P.R.E level					
Languages	Spoken -				
	Read -				
	Written -				
Hobbies / Sports					
Special Needs					

Year 2

Implement activities in our parishes and schools that underscore the rich diversity seen in all who are created in the image and likeness of God.

Action Step #3: COMMUNION & INTEGRATIVE PARTICIPATION STAGE

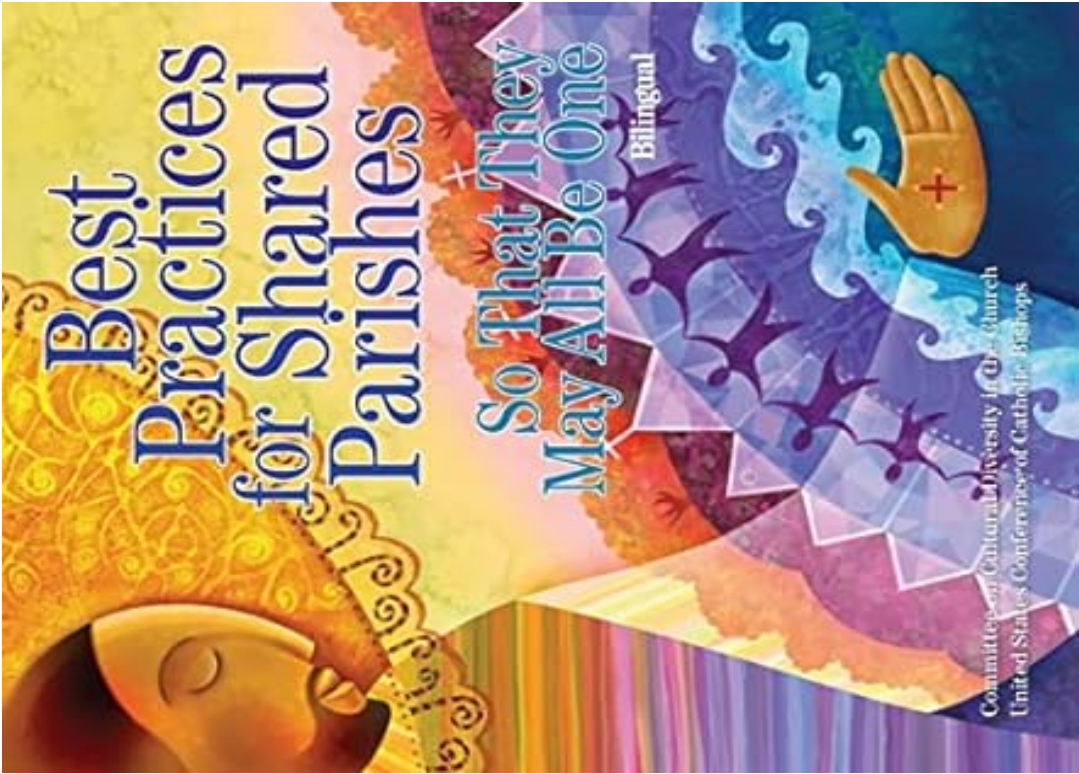
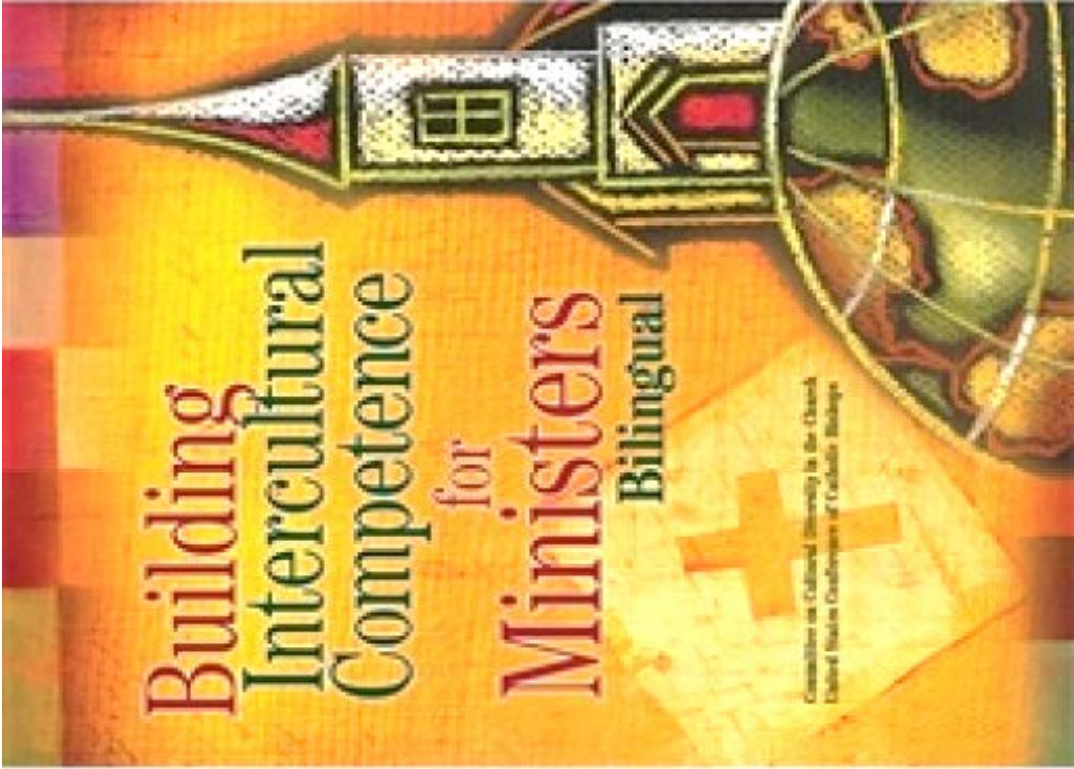
In which the main objective will be generating a sense of belonging among all members of the community. To this end, THE NEWLY HIRED DIRECTOR OF MULTICULTURAL MINISTRY, having gained access to the system reports, will issue documents, resources and trainings based on the results from the Updated data base to inform and make effective the following strategies:

1. Addressing our cultural & linguistic diversity (updated demographic data, a translators' directory, and a diocesan calendar of events), and ways to share resources already available (translating software, etc.).
2. Supporting parish efforts to provide formation and spiritual growth at all stages of life, from early childhood to senior years (updated demographic data & work in conjunction with Outreach, Faith Formation & Evangelization Priorities for coordination and expansion of programs and projects already available to reach all faithful throughout the diocese).
3. Encouraging and Facilitating the Participation of each member of our faith community through their own particular set of talents and resources (updated personnel, ministry, career, and institutional directory from updated database).

Accountability: Newly Hired Director of Multicultural Ministries at diocesan level with associates at the deanery levels.

Timeline: Printing (Database Updated report & resulting directories & standardized registration form) and Acquisition of materials (USCCB copies of "Building Intercultural Competencies for Ministers" \$13-\$37 and "Best Practices for Shared Parishes" \$40-\$44 for each multicultural parish) by Easter of 2026.
Then related trainings by request throughout 2026)

Estimated Costs: About \$100 to \$120 per parish for materials alone.
Add to that training sessions, which may be paid for by proceeds from multicultural fairs and other events.



Year 3

Assess and continually renew our response to Christ's call for unity.

Action Step #4: REPRESENTATIVE CO-RESPONSIBILITY STAGE

In which, represented in the various Pastoral Councils of our diocesan parishes, leaders from among the diversity of our community may continue the fruitful development of the enrichment of our experience of faith as One Body of Christ in West Tennessee. To this end, we strongly recommend the following follow-up strategies:

1. Continued use of designed diocesan standardized registration form by all parishes, so that our knowledge of our community of faith updates automatically with each new registration (diversity, stage of life, needs, and gifts).
2. The continuation of the service of the Diocesan Strategic Pastoral Planning task force teams as a consulting and aiding body to the current and future Diocesan Pastoral Council and to the various parish pastoral councils, with the addition of (once found and hired) the Director of Multicultural Ministry. This is required to support the Strategic Pastoral Plan implementation with guidance, training and resources, and to collect feedback from implemented strategies.
3. Biannual evaluation meetings with representatives of the parishes' pastoral councils to review the development, progress, and fruits of the implementation of the proposed strategies, as well as areas of commonality with other priorities for an ever evolving ever more efficient pastoral plan.

Accountability: SPP Task Teams & Pastoral Councils (Diocesan & Parish)

Timeline: Ongoing. Starting point Fall of 2026

Estimated Costs: TBD

Task Team

Priority: Stewardship

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Stewardship: We manifest the Eucharistic Life through our generous and intentional stewardship of all God's gifts.

Suggested Ideas

Action Step #1: Introduce stewardship with the lens of time, talent and treasure to the parishes through the established councils if possible. Includes education, planning, promotion and organization.

- Identify spiritually motivated parishioners who live stewardship to assist the pastor (if no pastoral or finance council exists)
- Develop an annual plan containing one stewardship action item per month. Can be new or existing events but promoted/taught through the lens of time, talent or treasure for God
- Compile accurate/up to date lists of all parish organizations, leaders, activities and volunteers to be used for communications, "thank you's", and future volunteer needs
- Provide promotion and leadership with #iGiveCatholic and the Annual Catholic Appeal. Provide fiscal year-end report on the state of the parish to include stewardship report.
- Educate clergy through study weekends for deacons (Deacon Leadership) and continuing education for priests (Committee for Ongoing Formation of Priests)

Accountability: Stewardship Task Force (through Parish leadership, Deacon Leadership and COFC)

Timeline: January - May 2025

Cost: Time, minimal printing costs and cost of bringing in speakers for priests (\$2000) and deacons (\$2000)

Action Step #2: Renew Diocesan Annual Stewardship Appeal evangelizing the importance of stewardship – five month campaign:

- September - **Kickoff** (Stewardship): Invitation to participate from Bishop David.
- October - **Emphasis on Talent:** Catholic Charities Appeal
- November - **Emphasis on Treasure:** #iGiveCatholic campaign: funded by the Diocese and available for all parishes, schools and ministries to participate.
- December - **Emphasis on Time.** Advent/Christmas - when there is so little time, focus on small things.

Accountability: Office of Development/Diocesan Offices

Timeline: August - December 2025

Cost: \$40,000 (high estimate for printing materials for all parishes)

Action Step #3: Continue ongoing Stewardship efforts

- Providing ongoing support to the parishes through ideas and implementation of monthly stewardship actions/activities such as stewardship reflections on the Sunday readings, Stewardship saint spotlights, special Masses offered throughout the year (Ordinations, Anniversary)
- Provide Parish fiscal year end Stewardship report (due December 2026 from each Parish). Reports to include financials, sacraments offered, successful ministry spotlights, etc.
- Provide Diocesan Stewardship report (due December 2026). Report to include diocesan financials, ACA, facilities, Catholic Foundation of West TN, SPP successes, etc.
- Brainstorm to provide ways to incorporate new ideas for each Stewardship Appeal focused on youth, college students, and young adults, sister parishes, stewardship of creation, stewardship of vocations, stewardship of cultures, stewardship of hospitality, etc. (2027)

Accountability: Stewardship Task Force/Office of Development

Timeline: 2026-2027

Cost: Estimated two-year cost of stewardship subscription \$2000

Appendix

- a) **Stewardship** - The reflections from the Bible and teachings of saints emphasize the connection between stewardship and discipleship. Calling the faithful to accept life as a gift and the Holy Spirit's role in spreading the Gospel. Good stewards find joy in returning blessings, drawing strength from the Eucharist. Stewardship is seen as expressing love for God and others, with everyone called to discern their unique vocation. Jesus' teachings guide stewardship, emphasizing trust, accountability, and service. Stewards collaborate with God in creation, care for life and the environment, and serve the Church community. Christian stewardship entails trustworthiness, generosity, and love, echoing the example of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Stewardship embraces a way of life, and thus becomes a lifestyle. It calls upon us to realize we are not owners of our time, talent and treasure; rather, we are stewards, called upon by God to manage our gifts by being responsible to God, who entrusts them to us.

- b) **Time** - Time is the most fundamental gift without it all others fail. Time is the duration of life that God gave us.
- c) **Talent** – Talents are gifts and strengths God has nurtured within us. Talents are like a plant and should be cared for to bloom, then flowers shared with everyone. We all possess a unique talent that is a gift from our loving Creator. In gratitude for these gifts, He asks us to share these talents with others.
- d) **Treasure** - Treasure is what we earned through our time and talent. Treasure is giving generously to the one who had given so generously to us – our lives and His Son's life. We are called to give of our first fruits in gratitude. We must examine what we have been given and determine a plan so we can do our part to share what God has given us with others.