



**WHAT IS JESUS INVITING US INTO?**

We were born for this moment.

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“... we are at the end of Christendom.” What is Christendom, you might ask? Christendom is defined as a time when our society – culture, family, business, politics, education and more – is deeply influenced by Christianity. This is not to say that all the people are Christian, rather that the Christian lens (our morals and values) are deeply imbedded in all those areas mentioned above.      Archbishop Fulton Sheen

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“We are dealing with the first culture in history that was once deeply Christian but that by a slow and thorough process has been consciously ridding itself of its Christian basis. We are therefore not attempting to make converts from pagans; we are attempting to bring back apostates to the Church, a different and more difficult challenge.” Christendom to Apostolic Mission: Pastoral Strategies for an Apostolic Times

**WE HAVE TO CHANGE  
THE WAY WE DO THINGS**

**Change our clocks –  
Christendom is dead.**

**WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?**

**WE ARE GOING ON MISSION**

**DIOCESE  
PARISHES  
INDIVIDUALS**

**WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?**



**“The community of believers was of one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they had everything in common.”**

**Acts 4:32**

**APOSTOLIC CHURCH**

**WHAT DID THE EARLY CHURCH DO?**

## **3 Fundamental Convictions**

**The world is crying.**

**The Church is crying.**

**You are not alive by chance, you were born for this.**

**WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?**

# 3 ESSENTIAL PRINCIPLES

Re-acquire a Biblical worldview.

Not enough to be a Staff. Become a Team. Then a Family **ON MISSION** together.

Prayerfully discern God's plan – Restore the initiative to God.

**WHAT WILL HELP US TO GET THERE?**



# A BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW

- The compelling and attractive proclamation of the gospel
- See the world through the “eyes” of God. It is more than seeing some things differently but we see everything differently.
- See the whole of life through the suffering, death and resurrection, an event that has become a living reality in the lives of every human person who believes.

**CREATED      CAPTURED      RESCUED      RESPONSE**

**WHAT WILL HELP US TO GET THERE?**

# **NOT ENOUGH TO BE A STAFF**

Become a Team. Become a Team **ON MISSION**  
together, **OF ONE MIND AND HEART.**

**“The community of believers was of one heart and mind...”**

**WHAT WILL HELP US TO GET THERE?**

# **PRAYERFULLY DISCERN GOD'S PLAN – RESTORE THE INITIATIVE TO GOD**

“For thus says the LORD: For I know well the plans I have in mind for you—plans for your welfare and not for woe, so as to give you a future of hope. When you call me, and come and pray to me, I will listen to you. When you look for me, you will find me. Yes, when you seek me with all your heart, I will let you find me and I will change your lot.”      Jeremiah 29:11-13

**WHAT WILL HELP US TO GET THERE?**

# RESTORE THE INITIATIVE TO GOD

“The Church is not a rowboat driven forward by the strength and skill of the arms of those who are in her, but a sailboat driven by the wind which blows it along ‘from above.’”

Cardinal Raniero Cantalamessa



**WHAT WILL HELP US TO GET THERE?**



**I WANT YOU TO  
JOIN ME ON  
MISSION.**

**APOSTOLIC TIMES**

**“...OF ONE HEART AND MIND...”**

# **MISSION LEADERSHIP TEAM**

## **CREATING CLARITY ABOUT GOD'S PLAN**

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- 1. Why do we exist?**
- 2. How do we behave?**
- 3. What do we do?**
- 4. How will we succeed?**
- 5. What is most important right now?**
- 6. Who does what?**

# Answering the Questions...

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**Q1. - Why do we exist?**

**The Catholic Diocese of Saginaw exists to courageously proclaim the living gospel so that Christ Jesus may lead people to salvation through his healing, love, and mercy.**

# Answering the Questions...

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## **Q2. – How do we behave? (Missional Values for the Diocese)**

### **Ambitious for God and His Kingdom**

- God has set us apart for this work; Is doing something bigger than us
- Unshakeable confidence in the Lordship of Jesus

### **Authentically Human**

- Constant concern for our collective wellbeing
- Commitment to a unified mind and heart

### **Docile to the Holy Spirit/God is the Architect**

- Willingness to go wherever he leads
- Absolute primacy of prayer for all we do



# Answering the Questions...

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## **Q3. What do we do? (Mission Leadership Team)**

**We prayerfully discern God's plan in order to lead and unite the diocese around Jesus, the living Word.**

One of the critical areas we all need to rethink is the relationship between prayer and action... The apostles and saints prayed in order to know what to do, and not merely before doing something.

# Answering the Questions...

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## Q4. How will we succeed? ( 3 Pillars)

### **Create a strategic and very intentional plan for success.**

- Our ministry at the Chancery is to equip parish leadership to complete the mission.
- The Evil One has a strategy to derail us! We must be able to recognize when this happening and acknowledge it—when we identify it, power is lost.

# Answering the Questions...

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## Q4. How will we succeed? (3 Pillars)

### **PILLAR 1 – Love And Support A Unified Presbyterate On Mission**

- Support Holy and Healthy Priests
- Creating Unity with in Presbyterate
- Create a Culture for Priestly Vocations
- Form a Chancery Family to Serve the Presbyterate

# How can you help? – Pillar 1?

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## Love and support a unified presbyterate on mission

- ❖ Daily prayer for our priests
- ❖ Tell them how much you appreciate all he does for the parish
- ❖ Recognize their birthday and priesthood anniversary
- ❖ Support them, both as a human and a priest
- ❖ Get engaged in the ministry they provide for our parishes
- ❖ Help with creating a vocation culture in our parishes

# Answering the Questions...

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## Q4. How will we succeed? (Pillars)

### **PILLAR 2 – Build Disciples To Be Sent On Mission**

- Create clarity on the Mission
- Raise and equip disciples for Mission
- Chancery “on fire” for Mission
- Cultivate and nurture an environment which serves the common good (includes outward focus).

# How can you help? – Pillar 2?

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## Build Disciples To Be Sent On Mission

- ❖ Honestly reflect upon how you have answered the call to missionary discipleship
- ❖ With the Lord, seek to discover your own gifts and charisms for mission
- ❖ Embrace your own formation program for discipleship
- ❖ What is the Missionary culture and atmosphere within your parish?

# Answering the Questions...

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## Q4. How will we succeed? (3 Pillars)

### **PILLAR 3 – Go After the Lost Sheep**

- Find, form, convert and heal the lost sheep
- Create ways to facilitate encounters with Jesus Christ

# How can you help? – Pillar 3?

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## Go After The Lost Sheep

- ❖ Embrace your own call to missionary discipleship
- ❖ How can you “leave the 99 and go after the one lost sheep”?
- ❖ Help start a ministry in your parish to serve this pillar
- ❖ What is the Missionary culture within your parish?
- ❖ All about personal invitation and accompaniment



# Answering the Questions...

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**Q5. What is most important right now? [Mission Leadership Team]**

**Journey (Together) Toward One Mind And One Heart By:**

- **Creating a strategic and very intentional plan for success**
- **Building clarity around a biblical world-view**
- **Continuing to answer the Questions 1-6**
- **Work toward creating a holy and healthy presbyterate and Chancery staff**
- **Creating a comprehensive Communication Plan/Process for sharing the Mission**
- **Begin to share this plan that Jesus has given us**

# Answering the Questions...

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## Q6. **Who does what?**

**The work of these Three Pillars is a work in progress.**

**The bulk of this work is divided among the members of the Mission Leadership Team. They will bring together their own teams in order to create and implement a plan for each of these Pillars.**

# WHAT I AM ASKING YOU TO DO

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- **Pray, pray, pray**
- ***Who we want to become as a Diocese (our identity):***  
*“The community of believers was of one heart and mind... With great power the apostles bore witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great favor was accorded them all.”*
- **Embrace our Missional Values wholeheartedly**
- **Challenge yourself in stepping out as a missionary disciple**
- **Become the disciple whom God has created you to be**

# YOU WERE BORN FOR THIS



**“I am not afraid,  
because God is with  
me. I was born for  
this.”**

**WHAT I AM ASKING YOU TO DO**

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**JOIN ME ON MISSION TO  
TRANSFORM OUR DIOCESE**



QUESTIONS