

DIOCESE OF SAGINAW LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE



Let's Seize the Moment *Understanding the Mission Before Us*



Dear Fathers, DPLs and Principals,

The world our parishes and schools were built to serve no longer exists. That is not a reason for discouragement, but rather a summons. Christ is still building His Church, and He is doing it through the leaders He has already placed here, in this moment.

I'm inviting you and your teams to spend a day together with me - a day of clarity and inspiration: naming the age we're actually in, understanding what apostolic mission asks of us to do, and giving your team room to discern where the Lord is calling you next.

Bring your team. This work doesn't transfer through one person carrying notes back to everyone else.

This is the first of what I hope will be an annual gathering where we get inspired and equipped to go deeper on mission together.



In Christ,

Most Rev. Robert D. Gruss, Bishop of Saginaw



Tuesday, October 6, 2026



9:30 AM - 5:00 PM



Center for Ministry
5802 Weiss St, Saginaw

Lunch provided

Register by Monday, September 28, 2026

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/10-6-26>



Who Should I Bring?

Think of a small group of people you already rely on to lead mission with you.



For a Pastor & DPL,

that's likely some mix of your parochial vicar or deacon, your business manager, your DRE or faith formation lead, your youth or young adult minister, your music or liturgy director - and the trusted parishioners you turn to when something important needs to get done.



For a Principal,

it's your assistant principal, your campus minister, department or grade-level leads, your advancement or admissions director, and the teachers others naturally follow.



If your parish has a school

bring your principal with you - and ask him or her to bring their team as well. Pastor and principal leading from the same understanding is one of the most fruitful things that can come out of a day like this.



You don't need a formal leadership team to come. If you've never gathered these people as a group before, this day is a good place to start - and if you can only bring two or three, bring two or three. What matters is that you're not here alone. The work of this day is meant to be carried back together to be united in one heart and mind, and that only happens if more than one person is in the room.