

# **Timeline for the Task Force for the Priestly Life and Vocation Summit: Fishers of Men**

**Updated January 20, 2005**

## **Mission Statement**

We as the Task Force for the Priestly Life and Vocation Summit: Fishers of Men Program, in collaboration with the Bishop, Presbyteral Council and other Diocesan entities, will strive to facilitate a process for the renewal and revitalization of priests which will by various means lead priests and challenge the presbyterate/community to invite men to consider the priesthood. In doing so, we will foster an ever deeper relationship with Christ and one another.

### **Six Months before the Workshop (Priestly Life and Vocations Summit)**

- Formation of the Priests Task Force (representatives of the Presbyteral Council, Vocation Office, Continuing Formation Office) in conjunction with the USCCB Secretariat for Vocations and Priestly Formation and its Inviter resource materials
- Clarification and approval of Task Force Mission and Role by the Bishop & Presbyteral Council
- Decision to listen as fully as possible to each priest as a way to begin a process of renewal
- Decision to adopt the in-depth interview process based on the USCCB PLVM:FOM materials
- Conduct pilot interviews with priests if desired to assess the impact of the proposed format
- Meet with the Bishop to finalize this approach if further approval and support are needed

### **Five Months before the Workshop**

- Develop a pool of priest interviewers and invite all (or a manageable sample of) priests to be interviewed
- Orientation for the priest interviewers

### **Four Months before the Workshop (may need more time to conduct interviews, e.g. 4-8 weeks rather than one month)**

- Conduct interviews of priests

### **Three Months before the Workshop**

- Discernment teams of 3 priests/team formed for each of 8 interview topics to prayerfully review the anonymous responses and discern the quotes that best reflect:
  - what priests are saying that is important to their lives and ministry
  - what actions priests take to invite men to consider priesthood, and what greater hopes and possibilities exist for encouraging vocations and extending invitations
- Interview summaries from discernment teams used in pre-Summit reflections as well as in prayer, presentations, discussions, and the formation of follow-up/action teams in key areas

### **Two Months before the Workshop**

- Documentation and printed materials are drafted and preparatory reading is sent out
- Liturgical experiences established, speakers are oriented to the entire workshop

### **One Month before the Workshop**

- Logistics for the actual workshop continue to be addressed

- Follow-up to the workshop is charted and discussed with the Presbyteral Council

### **Following the Workshop**

- Emerging proposals and work of priest follow-up/action teams coordinated by Presbyteral Council and Vocation Office; engage priests to be more actively involved in building a renewed presbyterate and personally inviting men to consider the priesthood
- Create a more dynamic vocation culture within the presbyterate