

## **Vision 20/20: From Pentecost to Pentecost Concept Paper**

### **Purpose**

Through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit and with deep faith in the people of God, Bishop Zinkula calls the Diocese of Davenport to a revitalization of our faith and a renewal of grace in the spirit of Pentecost. The time is now for us to move forward and fill every heart and life with the joy of the Gospel through a fresh encounter with Jesus Christ and His Church. Let us rise up and embrace the glorious future for God's faithful in southeast Iowa.

In recent years, we have weathered storms and navigated through some difficult challenges. We believe it is time now to be proactive about the future and be a light to the world. It is time to read the signs of the times as we name our sorrows and our joys, and look ahead toward a bright future of the Church. To this end, we are planning a diocesan Convocation at St. Ambrose University on June 6-8, 2019, which is entitled:

### **"Vision 20/20: From Pentecost to Pentecost"**

### **Timeline and Steps**

In October/November 2018, we will hold listening sessions in every parish of the Diocese in order to assess the landscape in our area. Prior to these sessions, participants will be asked to reflect upon Pope Francis' *The Joy of the Gospel* and review a set of materials to raise their understanding of the current state of the Church here and worldwide. The parish sessions will focus on questions about missionary discipleship and evangelization.

In early 2019, we will conduct regional conversations around the Diocese, with 3-4 representatives from each parish or ministry delivering the message heard at their listening sessions. From these regional conversations, we will identify certain themes that will be addressed around the Diocese during spring 2019 and at the Convocation.

On June 6-8, 2019, we will hold the Convocation to meet these objectives:

- Celebrate our unity in the joy of the Gospel
- Reflect on the call to be "Spirit-filled evangelizers"
- Look to the peripheries of our communities
- Read the signs of the times in our Diocese of Davenport
- Explore practical strategies for the future
- Begin to chart out concrete plans for taking the next steps
- Pray for the grace to move forward

In fall 2019, we will work on the next steps that are identified at the Convocation.

During Pentecost 2020, we will hold a diocesan celebration to keep the momentum going.