



New Life

Through the Tender Compassion of Our God



Regional Planning for Mission: Meeting Agenda (1.5 Hours)

Total Time: 90 minutes

Purpose: To gather in prayer and reflection as we begin the “Planning for Mission” process in our parishes.

Wednesday, November 19, 2025 | St. Bernards in Thief River Falls – 50 participants | Fr. Craig Vasek, DPC Member: Pat Brickston. Diocese of Crookston: Bishop Cozzens and Jim Remer.

1. Welcome and Introduction – Jim (5 minutes)

- Introduce myself
- Brief overview of the purpose and spirit of the session.
 - Explain what we will do this evening
 - Time to hear from Bishop, adoration, small group sharing, feedback, and questions.
 - Briefly review principles from Regional Planning Process document.

2. Why We Are Here – Bishop (15 minutes)

- Opening Prayer
- What is *Planning for Mission*?
- Why prayer is the foundation of this process.
- Invitation to enter a time of reflection before the Lord.
- Announce that we will collect the questions after the sharing.

3. Eucharistic Adoration with Benediction (20 minutes)

- Ensure Pastor is briefed for Adoration; distribute Adoration handouts (Jim bring).
 - Bishop Cozzens will lead adoration and Benediction.
 - Pastor will set up for adoration to include incense, and he will serve during adoration.

Guided Reflection Prompts:

Bishop will lead a guided reflection before the Blessed Sacrament; he will invite parishioners to answer the questions below.

Three questions will be provided on a half-page handout **which will be collected**.

1. How have you encountered Jesus at your parish?
2. What is the greatest challenge you face as a parish?
3. What would need to change for your parish to grow?

(Conclude with Benediction.)

4. Small Group Sharing (15 minutes)

Share insights using the half-sheet of reflection questions:

- How have you encountered Jesus at your parish?
- What is the greatest challenge you face as a parish?
- What would need to change for your parish to grow?

5. Large Group Sharing (10 minutes)

- Invite 3-5 participants (randomly chosen) to share 1 insight from their small group..
- We need to provide fun things for youth to engage, and we need to step out of our box and evangelize – make a friend, be a friend, lead a friend to Jesus
- Help those who “get it” to be comfortable to share their faith. More small groups. Evangelize
- Adoration is key – critical mass of those who have had an encounter with the living Lord. Culture change – move from being served to serving Culture Change
- We need financial sustainability. We need full Masses. We need our people to come home.

6. The Planning for Mission Process – Bishop (15 minutes)

- Distribute the *Planning for Mission* handout.
- Distribute scenarios sheet.
- Walk through the steps of the process.
- Address any clarifying questions.

Note – DPC members and parish representatives will be a place to ask questions and share information.

7. Closing and Questions (10 minutes) – go long if needed

- Open floor for comments or questions.
- Closing remarks and blessing.
 - Pray the Our Lady of Guadalupe prayer
 - Final blessing from Bishop Cozzens