

BEACONS of LIGHT



Principle III LEADERSHIP

Pastors, in collaboration with parochial vicars, deacons and lay ministers, according to their proper roles and charisms, share responsibility for pastoral leadership. The spiritual, physical and mental health and ongoing support of ordained and lay leaders is vital for Families of Parishes.

VISION POINTS

- **Pastor:** The Family of Parishes is led by a single pastor who is appointed by the archbishop. He is ultimately entrusted with the care of souls and therefore is responsible for the leadership of the parish.
- **Unified:** The Family moves toward becoming one parish led by one pastor.
- **Deacons:** Deacons are part of the diocesan clergy and are appointed by the archbishop to serve the Family of Parishes.
- **Health & Wellbeing:** All members of the Family of Parishes support and foster the health and well-being of all leaders; in doing so, we ensure the well-being of the Church.
- **Co-responsibility:** Pastors, staff, and parishioners share responsibility for bringing all relevant perspectives to the process of discernment, according to their proper roles and gifts.
- **Leadership:** Pastors actively cultivate skill in leadership and draw others into leadership with them.
- **Formation:** Clergy participate in and are accountable for their spiritual and theological formation as well as leadership development. Clergy and laity are well-

formed spiritually, theologically, and for leadership in support of their respective roles.

PARAMETERS

P 11 Every Family of Parishes will have a unified Pastoral Council, with other relevant and necessary consultative groups for specific areas of parish life.

P 12. The Finance Councils of each parish within the Family will work together to appropriately plan for and monitor the finances of the Family of Parishes.

P 13 Competent and qualified staff are necessary to serve the Family of Parishes, especially in the areas of worship, evangelization (including love in action), and administration. As is possible, staff will be unified to serve the entire Family.

P 14 Priests must have a regularly scheduled day off and must be able to take all annual vacation and retreats.

P 15 Priests, deacons, staff and other lay leaders will participate in ongoing spiritual formation and training for leadership.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. Jesus was a servant leader. What does it mean to be a servant leader? What qualities do you look for in a leader?
2. What does the leadership structure look like in your parish? Who are the leaders in your parish?
3. What leadership roles have you taken in your life? Have you been involved in a leadership position in the parish? If so, what was your experience? If not, what keeps you from sharing your talents with the community?
4. What are some ways in which the lay faithful, parish staff, priests, and deacons can collaborate to improve leadership so as to improve the proclamation of the Gospel?