

DIOCESE OF SUPERIOR

OFFICE OF PARISH TRANSFORMATION



"The mission of the Office of Parish Transformation is to assist parishes in implementing Bishop's Pastoral Letter on Evangelization and the Diocesan Pastoral Plan."

December 11, 2025

Dear Pastors, Parochial Administrators, Sacramental Ministers, Parish Directors, and Parish Life Coordinators,

Happy Advent! I hope that your journey to welcoming Christ more fully into your lives has been fruitful thus far.

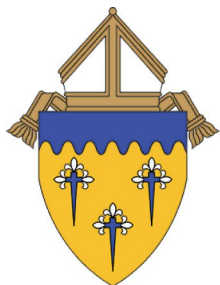
We have come a long way in our diocese since *Bishop's Pastoral Letter on Evangelization* was written and released on Pentecost of 2023, as well as the official roll out of the *Maintenance to Mission Pastoral Plan: Recalibrating our Structures to Move on Mission* and the establishment of the Office of Parish Transformation on February 18, 2025. We have much to celebrate as we continue on the journey of solidarity in keeping the *main thing, the main thing*: evangelization, spreading the Good News of the Gospel, inviting people to authentic discipleship in Jesus Christ, holding the Eucharist as the *source and summit* of our efforts, and being intentional in our restoration of apostolic zeal in the Diocese of Superior. As we partner with *The Office of Evangelization & Missionary Discipleship*, we also celebrate the establishment of *Encounter: Parish Mission Apostolate*.

As you continue to work on your annual goals, which will be due to the Office of Parish Transformation (cnewkirk@catholicdos.org) no later than **May 15, 2026**, please feel free to reach out to myself or your Office of Parish Transformation representative for any support and accompaniment you may need. Please also continue to reach out to Christopher Hurtubise for additional support and resources for evangelization. We are here to serve you, support you, guide you, accompany you and to celebrate with you on your continued journey.

The question was asked at the clergy workshop regarding, "What about the 3–5-year goal setting?" For this first round of submissions, it is hoped that you concentrate on a deep analysis of current Parish realities (Parish Annual Snapshots, Pillar IV Checklist), where you can immediately begin to improve and continue to form a deeper understanding of evangelization, mission, expanding the prayer life, Eucharistic Adoration opportunities and continual formation for your leadership teams, councils and parishioners in general. If you are ready to set 3–5-year goals and want to include them with your May 15, 2026, submission, please feel free to do so by indicating in the *comment section* that it is a multi-year goal.

The Diocesan staff have been working on our goals as well. One immediate goal that we have already started to implement is to have a more extensive prayer time at all diocesan meetings. Another aspect that we have begun to work on is collective professional development as diocesan staff. We have now had two-day long formation sessions with representatives from Divine Renovation and will have two more in the Spring of 2026. As a result, we have also just become aware of an opportunity from Divine Renovation that is available to priests in our diocese and throughout the US. I realize how busy this time of year can be and that this is short notice, however, I felt it was still important to offer this opportunity for those whose schedules allow participation. It is a formational series called *KickStart* and is specifically aimed at leadership formation and coaching for priests. I have provided the PR video link here: *Kickstart* Promo Video: <https://divinerenovation.org/group-coaching/>. Please also find attached the invite from Divine Renovation for those of you who would like to participate in one of the upcoming series that is being offered.

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Dear Fathers,

A generous and unique opportunity is being offered to your priests in the Diocese of Superior through Divine Renovation. You may have already heard of or have come across Divine Renovation, a parish-based ministry founded by Father James Mallon in Halifax, NS Canada after his experience of leading a parish through decline and into a thriving place of renewal. Bishop Powers and the chancery staff have been meeting with two of our coaches from Divine Renovation for two formation days around parish renewal and creating missionary disciples. These days have been enlightening, exciting, and very engaging - and perfectly timed with Bishop's vision for where you want to head as a missional diocese.

And a donor is making this available to your p at **priests at no cost!** This is a group coaching experience called ***Kickstart*** where you will be connected with a cohort of brother priests from other areas, even other parts the world, at a time that works for you. Supported by a Divine Renovation coach, you will be assisted in unlocking and applying key evangelization principles to your own unique parish situation. Over **four weekly 90 minute sessions via zoom**, you'll be equipped to build on the grace that God has given you to lead your parish. Upon completion, Divine Renovation stands ready to continue supporting you as you continue your own parish's journey of transformation: *from maintenance to mission*. They focus on crafting and casting a compelling vision, building a great team, investing in reaching the lost, and changing the culture in your parish. Would you be interested in taking part?

Here are the time slots currently being offered which will kick off in January or February 2026. If you are interested, please sign up today to reserve your spot since this donor funded experience will fill up quickly.

Option 1: (if you like early mornings!)

Thursdays at 7:00-8:30am on the following dates:

15 Jan 2026
22 Jan 2026
5 Feb 2026
12 Feb 2026

Option 2:

Tuesdays at 12:30pm-2:00pm on the following dates:

20 Jan 2026
27 Jan 2026
3 Feb 2026
10 Feb 2026

Option 3:

Thursdays at 1:00-2:30pm on the following dates:

5 Feb 2026
12 Feb 2026
19 Feb 2026
26 Feb 2026

Option 4:

Wednesdays at 9:00-10:30pm on the following dates:

04 Feb 2026
11 Feb 2026
18 Feb 2026
25 Feb 2026

Sign up for **Kickstart here.**

Thank you for considering this invitation to join the diocese together on this journey of renewal - we can realize our future vision together and bring more souls to the Lord and His Church.

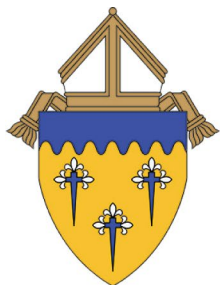
Peace,

Matt Regitz, Houston, TX, USA



Matt Regitz
Director of Coaching
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As you read, this is a wonderful opportunity for our priests to be able to take advantage of, if you are able. If you do decide to register, please do so by clicking the link provided above and that brings you to Divine Renovation's registration site. Please also email me with your planned attendance.

In the New Year, we also hope to hear more about the fruitfulness that is taking place in your parish/cluster as a result of your *maintenance to mission* efforts. Please feel free to email me with any stories that you would like to share, that can be quoted in a future Catholic Herald articles, to celebrate and communicate progress throughout the diocese, and/or that can be used as examples for other parishes/clusters to consider as a means of growth and enhanced engagement in their own settings.

Thank you for your continued hard work and for your commitment to bringing *Bishop's Pastoral Letter on Evangelization and Maintenance to Mission (Diocesan-wide) Pastoral Plan: Recalibrating our Structures to Move on Mission* to life in the parishes you serve.

Christ's Peace and Blessings,
Christine Newkirk

Cc: Most Reverend James P. Powers, Fr. Andrew Ricci, Mrs. Peggy Schoenfuss