

Proclamation of the Pastoral Vision of the Diocese of Ogdensburg

As the Church of Ogdensburg gathers today at the Chrism Mass, we, a priestly people, proclaim Our Sacred Purpose:

*Christ-led, Christ-fed, and hope-filled,
The Diocese of Ogdensburg joyfully invites the people of the North Country
To the journey of faith through the proclamation of the Gospel,
The celebration of the Eucharist and the Sacraments, and the loving service of neighbor.*

As I complete my fourth year as your Shepherd, I have experienced so many blessings. Every day, new challenges and new opportunities present themselves for a faith-filled response. As we set our sights on addressing these challenges, we are grounded in a common vision which I share with you:

Find your home in Christ: Renew Faith, Nurture Hope, Discover Love

I have listened carefully and gratefully to you, my sisters and brothers, as we prayerfully set out on a course, a journey of faith that will strengthen the Family of Faith here in the North Country. With much hope and joy, I offer to you our three priorities with their six achievable, time-bound goals.

PRIORITY ONE:

Creating a Culture of Vocations

- Goal 1:** Establish the *We Are Called* Vocational Awareness plan for parishes by November 1, 2015.
- Goal 2:** Convene *Follow Me* Summit by September 24, 2016.

PRIORITY TWO:

Strengthening Faith Formation in Family Life

- Goal 1:** Establish Youth Ministry, in accordance with diocesan standards, in 25-30 parishes with competent, qualified leaders (adults and youth) by June 30, 2015.
- Goal 2:** Provide Family Catechesis for the Seven Sacraments for every parish by February 1, 2016

PRIORITY THREE:

Building Parishes with Living Stones

- Goal 1:** Charter a diocesan *Living Stones Planning Committee* with a clear mission and broad representation by September 1, 2014.
- Goal 2:** Complete diocesan-wide *Find Your Home in Christ* Census of all households between October 1, 2014 and August 1, 2015.

In your presence, my sisters and brothers in Christ, at this our St. Mary's Cathedral, on this 9th day of April 2014, I, Terry R. LaValley, the fourteenth Bishop of this local Church, hereby proclaim this Mutually Shared Vision for our beloved Diocese of Ogdensburg.

Ante Janis Vothan, SSF
Chancellor

+ Terry R. LaValley
Bishop of Ogdensburg