



## **Bishop Zinkula wants your feedback in planning study**

The Diocese of Davenport is looking to the future and conducting a comprehensive survey involving all parishes. Before any final decisions are made regarding long-range priorities for the diocese, Bishop Thomas Zinkula would like to hear from you.

All parishioners will be asked to share their thoughts regarding our diocese's needs and the possibility of conducting a major fundraising effort. Your feedback will enable the diocese to determine potential support for the projects. If the fundraising effort moves forward, the planning study will also provide information to identify prospective campaign leaders and to establish a realistic campaign goal.

Parishioners will have access to a fact sheet that details proposed goals and will be asked to respond in a variety of ways. Some parishioners will be personally interviewed, and others will have the option to mail in a survey, go online to answer questions and/or attend a listening session at a local parish. The Steier Group, our development firm, will compile results from the study and present it to our diocesan leadership.

This process is extremely important. Every diocesan family is encouraged to participate. Your input is valuable as we plan for the future of the Diocese of Davenport. Additional information will be forthcoming.

Please see other side for FAQ on planning study

## **FAQ on planning study**

Here are answers to Frequently Asked Questions about the Diocese of Davenport's ongoing planning study:

### **Q. What is a planning study?**

A. It is an assessment used to gauge support for a capital campaign that would address some or all of the needs identified in the fact sheet. (If you received a mailing, the fact sheet was enclosed. If you have not, the fact sheet can be found at [davenportdiocese.org](http://davenportdiocese.org).) The study will tell us which projects are deemed to be most important by our parishioners and help guide our planning for a potential fundraising effort.

### **Q. How is the study being conducted?**

A. The study is being administered by the Steier Group, a development firm. They are surveying the entire diocese to determine which projects are deemed most urgent and to identify potential support of a fundraising campaign.

### **Q. Why did we hire a consultant?**

A. This is such an important step for us that we are committed to doing it in a manner that is efficient and professional. Using a national consulting firm, like the Steier Group, will provide us with an objective study of our campaign readiness, an assessment of the attitudes toward the Diocese of Davenport, a detailed analysis on the potential for a successful capital campaign and clear recommendations for moving forward.

### **Q. Why are we doing this study and potentially starting a campaign?**

A. The Diocese of Davenport has been studying its needs to guide us through the coming years. This plan will help us address our current needs, as well as take prudent, thoughtful steps to prepare for the future needs of our church. The diocese is in a strong and stable condition, and this is not an indication of a crisis or emergency. The most urgent needs we have identified include those being considered through the planning study:

- Funding for priests' medical and retirement costs
- Funding for seminarian formation and vocations awareness
- Individual parish needs

The planning study will measure our ability to move forward and accomplish some, or all, of those projects.

### **Q. What do you expect of me?**

A. At this time, we ask only for your feedback. Your input and participation will help us to make prudent decisions as we move forward.