



Voice of the Faithful

Programs, Projects & Initiatives

Financial Working Group

- Publish annual Diocesan Financial Transparency Report (now in 5th year)
- Provide online web listing of all U.S. dioceses' finances
- Will conduct first ratings for diocesan financial governance in 2021
- Distribute brochures & guidelines for parish collection security
- Post principles for diocesan finance councils on website
- Provide Church structure primer on website

Child Protection

- Developed worksheet and conducting ratings on U.S. dioceses' implementation of child protection standards
- Developing database to monitor diocesan/parish observance of protection standards
- Promote awareness of child protection standards
- Post ideas for promoting awareness of guidelines online

Women's Roles

- Host Women's Advocacy Network
- Work with Discerning Deacons to restore the ordination of women deacons in the Catholic Church
- Hosted virtual gatherings for women deacon's discussions
- Post resources about women in the Church on our website

Ordination of Married Men/Optional Celibacy

- Provide Action Plan model on website, with letter template and step-by-step model to contact local bishop
- Promote request for Pastoral Provision to allow married men to become priests
- Provide Study guide on celibacy and a related reading list and essay

Broken Vessel™ Healing Circles

- Conduct Broken Vessel™ Healing Circles, based on Restorative Justice principles, for survivors, families, and all others harmed by clergy sex abuse
- Offer facilitator training for Broken Vessel™ Healing Circles
- Work with institutional and local partners to train facilitators and host Broken Vessel™ Healing Circles

Lay Education

- Provide Study guides online for origins of the Church, Gospel timeline, Vatican II, and more
- Provide lay-renewal resources on website

Synod Preparation 2021-2023

- Posted video on background, timeline, and action steps to prepare for Synod
- Provide resources for Synod meetings, including a how-to guide for holding meetings, or to enhance planned parish and diocesan meetings
- Assist groups whose bishops will not meet with lay people per the Synod directives

Clericalism

- Collaborated with AUSCP on Clericalism report, which was sent to every U.S. bishop and Vatican offices
- Offer The BridgeDialogues on clericalism with AUSCP and FutureChurch
- Provide clerical culture descriptions and historical background on website
- Provide bibliography for further study on website

Bishop Selection

- Host on website a portal for national input on bishop selection needs
- Provide background papers for lay input into bishop selection
- Proposed demonstration projects for lay input to pope and cardinals
- Completed bishop-selection models
- Provide a primer on Bishop selection process

Survivor Support

- Support efforts to obtain justice for survivors
- Call for bishops to be held accountable
- Store government/academic reports on website
- Guidelines for reforming statute of limitations available
- Fr. Doyle's Clergy Sex Abuse Bibliography available
- Support SNAP and other survivor organizations

Prayerful Voice

- Provide options for devotional practices online
- Provide models online for lay-led days of renewal, prayer groups, prayer services, and retreats
- Periodically post spiritual reflections

Visit www.votf.org

- For information about all Voice of the Faithful programs and resources