

## **Bringing Christ Renews His Parish to Your Parish** (rv 10/07/14)

Christ Renews His Parish (CRHP) is an effective spiritual renewal process which calls together the members of the parish – priest, religious, laity – in order to experience personal conversion and Christian community in the environment of their own parish. Parishioners experience a renewal weekend, then go through a structured formation process, culminating in the giving of a renewal weekend for a new group of parishioners. CRHP has been successfully renewing parishes for more than 40 years, and was initiated in the Archdiocese of Kansas City, Kan. in 2003. If you'd like to bring Christ Renews His Parish to your parish, here is what you need to do:

- Step 1:** The pastor of your parish (the receiving parish) contacts Msgr. Tom Tank, pastor at Church of the Ascension. He will answer questions about CRHP, the process and determine a timeline for when your parish can be scheduled for initial mission weekends.
- Step 2:** The pastor of your parish attends a CRHP Renewal Weekend at another parish. The pastor can then make the decision to form an exploratory team.
- Step 3:** To ensure that the parish is ready to receive and sustain, the Pastor will identify 6 men and 6 women who will form the exploratory team and attend a CRHP Renewal Weekend at a neighboring parish and will also complete the formation at that same parish.
- Step 4:** After completion of the formation period, The Pastor along with the group of 6 men and 6 women will complete the discernment regarding the decision to bring the ministry to their parish. If the decision is made to bring the ministry to the parish, The Pastor will serve as the Spiritual Director for the Mission Weekends and the rest of the group will form the initial continuation committee for the parish and be assigned the roles of CSD, Facilitators for Discernment, History Giving/Faith Sharing, Evening of Pentecost as well as oversight for Weekend Facilitator and Invitations/Kitchen Coordinator.
- Step 5:** The parish will pay fees and order manuals through the national CRHP office. The current cost is \$495. The parish will also need to order 55-60 manuals at \$45 each.
- Step 6:** After the fees have been paid, The pastor sets dates for the initial mission weekend at your parish; one weekend for the men's retreat, one weekend for the women's retreat at least two weeks later. Dates will need to be coordinated with the CRHP Regional Support Team.
- Step 7:** The Pastor will assist the continuation committee with the identification of 24 men and 24 women who should represent a variety of ministries to attend the initial mission weekends. The Pastor will play a key role in the extending of invitations to the first wave of retreatants.

The CRHP Regional Support Team can provide a tri-fold brochure for you to personalize your invitations and will be able to share other best practices as utilized by other parishes to extend invitations.

### **Other Functions that might be fulfilled by members of the Continuation Committee:**

- A. Communication Liaison will coordinate a process for completed invitations to the mission weekend and subsequent Renewal Weekends and contact with the Regional Support Team.
- B. Facilities Liaison will assist with reserving space for the retreat: 4 rooms that comfortably hold 60 people: temporary chapel, Witness Room, eating area and sleeping area, host a walkthrough, and on-site support during the retreat weekend.
- C. Kitchen Liaison to help identify and coordinate ministries or parishioners who might be able to provide meals for the retreat. Mission Committee can assist in how to solicit donations.
- D. Sacristan / Liturgy Liaison will be available for consultation and needed on-site resources.

### **Cost:**

The Regional Support Team does not charge for their services and will provide most of the materials for the initial mission weekends. In addition to the costs for purchasing manuals and paying the fee to the CRHP national office, a parish should plan for:

- E. Discussion of optional purchase of 50 sleeping mats/cots/inflatable mattresses for retreat
- F. \$40 per person for food, if not donated (approx. 100 people for 2 teams and retreatants)

Going forward, please expect to budget \$1,500 to \$2,000 annually. Costs can be deferred by donations.