

## ***Family of Parishes: The Directors - Update from Fr. Patrick – June 27, 2021***

This week I would like to write about a few of the director positions envisioned in the Family of Parishes structure. The team of priests, led by the Moderator (Fr. Jaime Hinojos) are charged with leading the Family and helping to form a team that helps to care for the entire Family. The team that leads the Family is also to include six directors who will each have an area of expertise that they oversee at all six parishes across the Family. The director does not do the ministry at the parish level per se, though this may happen in some instances, but oversees their area of expertise across the family and works with coordinators at the parish level to ensure ministries in these various areas are taking place and being done effectively. The Archdiocese has listed six director positions in the new structure. This weekend I will give a synopsis of three of the positions and next week I will cover the remaining three.

**Director of Mission of Support:** The Family Mission Support Director will lead the Mission Support team to deliver parish and family day-to-day responsibilities related to Finance/Accounting, Human Resources, Information Technology, and Facility Management. The director will be responsible to supervise, train, and evaluate the performance of all Mission Support staff.

**Director of Discipleship Formation:** The Director of Discipleship Formation oversees all aspects of disciple formation in the Family, with emphasis on encounter, grow, and witness. (See Unleash the Gospel, Guidepost 9); gives direction and vision for catechesis in the parish within the age groups (children, youth, young adult, and adult faith formation), engaging parents as the primary educators of their children; coordinates sacramental preparation programs; where applicable works collaboratively with Catholic school principal and staff regarding catechetical programs in the Catholic schools; and acts as a resource for parish programs in the area of catechesis. Works closely with the Director of Engagement and Director of Family Ministries, helping to move individuals and families from the “encounter” stages of evangelization into the “grow” and “witness” phases of discipleship formation. Attention should be given to sensitivity to cultural diversity.

**Director of Engagement:** The Director of Engagement assists parishioners by equipping them for the service of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. (See Unleash the Gospel, Guidepost 4.); oversees programs that evangelize the evangelizers (Marker 4.1, 4.2) using the process of encounter, grow, and witness; helps parishioners to discern their charisms for ministry (Marker 4.3); leads parish and Family efforts to reach out to unchurched Christians and people of other faiths; ensures effective and responsive communications to all those engaged with or seeking engagement with the Church; oversees RCIA and the radical hospitality for all parish events and programs; develops evangelization initiatives and collaborates with the team so evangelization is integrated throughout the other areas; works closely with the Director of Discipleship Formation and Director of Family Ministries, helping to move individuals and families from the “attract” and “encounter” stages of evangelization into the “grow” and “witness” phases of discipleship formation. Attention should be given to sensitivity to cultural diversity.