



Bishop's Welcome Back Pentecost Project OVERVIEW

Basic Project Goals:

- 1) Give the gift of a blessed candle and prayer card to all our parish families
- 2) Invite and welcome back all who have been away from Mass
- 3) Unite in prayer for eight days following Pentecost
- 4) Provide an opportunity to further invite others back

Each parish is encouraged to have a minimum of one - two parish captains. This will help lessen any potential burdens on your pastor in providing these gifts from Bishop to your parish families.

Online informational meetings will be held for Parish Captains during the first part of May; each will cover the same content (dates/times: TBD). These will help provide Parish Captains with an overview of the plans for this initiative and address any logistical questions. We ask that at least one Parish Captain participate in this informational meeting.

Parish Captain Role:

- 1) Promote:
 - a) Coordinate placement of bulletin announcements, email blasts, Mass announcements and Prayers of the Faithful based on recommended timelines provided by the diocese. **
- 2) Recruit:
 - a) Gather volunteers to help execute this project
 - b) Recruit others (as needed) to help set-up and oversee the area where candles will be displayed and distributed at your parish. Parishioners will be encouraged to pick up their blessed candle and prayer card at this time (timing: ideally at Pentecost Masses - May 22/23) **
 - c) Consider recruiting a parish team to help expand on this prayer initiative in your parish as your pastor and you deem appropriate
- 3) Implement:
 - a) Coordinate with the parish to determine where candles can be delivered and temporarily stored before they are distributed
 - b) Arrange to receive the candle and prayer card delivery from a diocesan chancery staff member (tentative timeline: between April 26 – May 17)
- 4) Encourage:
 - a) Take additional steps to encourage members of your parish to prayerfully participate in the candle initiative and invite people back to Mass

** Suggested messaging will be provided by the Diocese.