

# Steps to Success When Communicating With Your Pastor or Bishop

\*\*\*\*\* Most important thing to remember: The council is in service to the Parish/Diocese. This must be believed and emulated by the council.

**#1 Request to meet with your Pastor/Bishop for one purpose: to ask how your council may better serve the parish/diocese.**

**#2 When you meet with a Pastor/Bishop to discuss a new idea or project, make sure that the following two points are very clear:**

- The idea/project will cost him no money
- The idea/project will not create more work for him

**#3 Prior to creating the calendar for you council or jurisdiction, ask the Pastor/Bishop if you may see the parish's/diocese's calendar for the Fraternal year.**

Stress that you want to make sure your council is aware of and ready to assist with important events for the Pastor/Bishop throughout the year.

**#4 Understand the *Faith in Action* Programs very well. Prior to meeting with the Pastor/Bishop, do your homework and learn what programs and initiatives are important to him.**

Begin by proposing *Faith in Action* programs that directly contribute to the initiatives/programs important to him.

**#5 Ask the Pastor/Bishop if you may be part of his "leadership team."**

Be clear that your intention is to be better engaged with the priorities of the parish/diocese so that your council may serve him better.

**#6 At all costs, be the group in the parish/diocese that he can depend on the most.**

- If the Pastor/Bishop asks for your help, do everything possible to help, even if it's something "we don't normally do."
- If the Pastor/Bishop implements a new initiative and he does not ask for your assistance, reach out to him and offer to help in any way you can.