



We want to provide you an update regarding Bishop Tylka's discernment process as part of the Growing Disciples initiative, the multi-year pastoral planning process for the Catholic Diocese of Peoria to renew discipleship and enhance relationships with Jesus Christ in every corner of our region. Bishop Tylka is reading, listening to and praying about all the feedback he is receiving. In the meantime, we want to share with you how he plans to announce his decisions.

On the weekend of May 18 and 19 (Pentecost weekend), each pastor will read a letter from the Bishop at every weekend Mass. The letter will include information specific to each parish and will be shared at all the Masses that weekend.

Between 5 pm and 6 pm on Saturday, May 18, the Diocese will be making the information public regarding all parish changes and priest announcements on its website ([growingdisciplescdop.org](http://growingdisciplescdop.org)). That website will also include a glossary of terms, a section of Frequently Asked Questions and a personal message from the Bishop. The website also currently includes materials to help guide you in praying a Novena before the announcement Pentecost weekend. **Please join us in praying this Novena for the nine days leading up to Pentecost for the people of the diocese of Peoria. We will begin together May 10.** Through these prayers, we will reflect on our history and legacy in the region. Through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, the faithful will be empowered to go make disciples in our new, mission-driven, sustainable structure of parishes.

## **Growing Disciples: Pastoral Plan Prayer**

Heavenly Father, you have sown the seeds of faith in your people and given us the responsibility as the Church to nurture and grow an abundant harvest for the Kingdom of God.

Send forth, we pray, the grace of the Holy Spirit to allow us to discern a path forward as we read the signs of our times. Help us become unified in the dream you have for us — to be a vibrant and mission-driven Church.

As we seek to live as disciples of your Son, Jesus, inspire us to give authentic witness to our relationship with you, so that others may be inspired by our love for you. Center us and feed us by the gift of the Eucharist that we may be strengthened for our mission. May each of us live out our vocation in service of the Gospel.

Almighty God, may we enter into this challenge and opportunity as a people filled with hope. Allow us to truly pray, dialogue, assess, discern and do what it is you are inviting us to, so that we may respond to today's needs and tomorrow's promise.

Committing ourselves anew to GROWING DISCIPLES, we trust in your providence, and we pray, Almighty God, that our efforts today will bear fruit for a brighter tomorrow.

Venerable Archbishop Fulton Sheen, pray for us!