

Renewal Assembly II

June 11, 2011



On the Eve of Pentecost, Saturday, June 11th, the Diocesan Congregational Renewal Committee will sponsor the second Renewal Assembly from 9:00 AM- 1:30 PM at eight new sites across the diocese. The day's organizing theme will be: Focusing on God's Blessings – Connecting the Dots.

The day will begin with a special video presentation. Three laypersons join Bishop Paul to discuss the gifts of the Spirit in their lives, in their congregations, and in their communities in the video, titled "Connecting the Dots." Bishop Paul engages his guests in discussing the gifts of the Spirit in their lives; how a congregation detects the gifts and opportunities the Spirit gives parishes; and, how parish leadership detects the gifts in individuals and calls them forth.

A small group discussion follows to respond to issues surfaced in the video.

The participants will then move on to an exercise in "Focusing on God's Blessings." This exercise will introduce the process of "asset mapping."

Asset mapping begins with the recognition of the abundance of God's gifts and talents. In the process of mapping out God's blessings, the congregation can find an exciting, new and positive energy to break out of the negative cycle of need, dependence, and "survival mode" that congregations sometimes experience.

Following the exercise, participants will enter a time of prayer – private and corporate. We will begin with "prayer triads" where three people join to ask for prayer and respond to the prayer needs identified. Then, the entire assembly will join in corporate worship.

The eight host sites are: The Church of the Redeemer, Sayre; St. Paul's, Montrose; Good Shepherd, Scranton; St. Stephen's Pro-Cathedral, Wilkes-Barre; St. Peter's, Hazleton; St. Mary's, Reading; St. Stephen's, Whitehall; and, St. George's, Hellertown. The host sites were chosen for easy travel, parking, and adequate accommodations. Lunch will be provided with a "free will" offering to offset local expenses.

Registration is now open on www.diobeth.org. Click on "Register for Diocesan Events" on the right column of the homepage. Registration closes June 1st. All registrants will be assigned to the most appropriate host site by parish.

