

Report of the Right Onward Visioning Commission to the 228th Annual Diocesan Convention

As a reminder, in 2007 this Diocese officially adopted the following as our mission:

The Diocese of New Jersey is one family of diverse and unique congregations, belonging to Jesus Christ and belonging to one another, for Jesus' sake. Together, we are a missionary community, celebrating the abundant life of Christ and sharing that life with the world that God so loves. Our vision is to build up the Body of Christ and reach out to the world in Christ's name as we:

- share the Good News simply and genuinely;
- worship the Lord radiantly and reverently;
- serve the poor boldly and strive for justice passionately;
- give of our resources, our abilities and our lives joyously and generously; and
- seek continual spiritual renewal for a closer walk with Christ.

This is our vision of our Diocese, flourishing, to the Glory of God.

Each year following 2007, we embarked on a process of living out a section of our comprehensive vision.

2008: Growth through welcoming and inclusion

2009: Spiritual renewal

2010: Liturgical revival

Scheduled in 2011 for an emphasis upon Community and Resource Renewal, ROVC changed gears in response to ecclesial and economic realities to focus on Mission Renewal. Instead of working on adding another program or fostering suggestions for yet another outreach ministry for our parishes, many of whom are and ought to be consumed with caring for the last, the least the lost, and the lonely, we turned toward more basic notions. What is God calling our community of faith to become? Asking the question, can a majority of our members enthusiastically claim with some consistency why their church exists? We began a process to assist our local communities answer that question. That discernment continues into the coming year.

Faithfully Submitted,

Rev. Philip B. Carr-Jones, Chairperson