

**SUGGESTIONS FOR LOCAL PARISH PARTICIPATION**

**Choose** from the following ideas to increase your parish participation in and enjoyment of the Diocesan 150th Anniversary Year– **let us know your additional ideas, and send us photos**!

1. Utilize **all parish communication tools** to keep the Anniversary spirit active all year, for example:

* Utilize the Anniversary logo on parish bulletin cover (*sample enclosed*), email signatures, stationary
* Bulletin Anniversary corner with weekly “Did You Know” feature
* Link your parish website to the 150th Anniversary page of the Diocesan website
* Add a reference to the Diocesan Anniversary in your voice-mail recording

1. Send **Parish delegates to each of the three special Anniversary liturgies** at the Cathedral of St. Peter: December 3rd, March 4th and November 25th - *see enclosed* response page for more details.
2. Be sure to “like” the **Diocese of Scranton 150th Anniversary Facebook** page @DOS150 and to utilize **#DOS150** in all of your parish and individual social media (FB, Twitter, Instagram).
3. Create a **local church history display** in your vestibule or church hall. Extend it by posting also to your parish website. If you have parish Facebook or Instagram, start a campaign for parishioners to post parish memories and photos from decades past.
4. Make your **Parish History** available again in the parish – **bring the story forward** to make sure it includes changes which may have occurred during and since “Called to Holiness and Mission” and right up to this Anniversary year. **Please send the most current version of your Parish History to the Office for Parish Life for a display to be created at the Pastoral Center next Fall.**

(over)

1. Host a **parish oral history event** – walk through the decades and invite parishioners to re-tell their memories from each era. Highlight some specific parish “founders” and “pioneers” – let the younger members of your parish interview them.
2. Consider how to enhance any of your **annual parish events** with an Anniversary focus this year, for example your own Parish Feast Day, Annual Parish Picnic, first Sacrament celebrations, annual Volunteer Appreciation event, etc.
3. Place an **Anniversary Banner** at the entrance to each Worship Site, Catholic School and any other Catholic institutions in your area – *see enclosed* “interest indicator” to place an advance order so that we can get bulk order pricing.
4. Make a group experience around the **monthly segments of “Our Faith, Our Diocese” on Catholic Television (CTV)** – arrange a way for the group to gather and view this together, then discuss the aspects of the history of the Diocese presented each month – and begin to envision how the church will continue to express its mission in the coming decades.
5. Experience **some type of pilgrimage this year** – either to a local point of historical significance, by utilizing the self-guided pilgrimage calendar or app to reach a dozen sites, and/or by joining the Diocesan pilgrimage to Washington, DC next September.