



## OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

May 23, 1987

My dear Friends in Christ:

It is with a deep sense of satisfaction and gratitude to the Lord that I ratify and promulgate today the goals and action plans which have emerged from our collaborative efforts in seven principal areas of concern. The seven issues addressed and the resulting action plans will form the basis for and give direction to our Church's efforts for the foreseeable future.

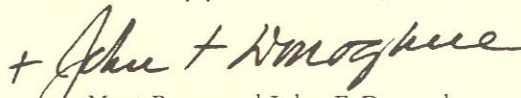
Through this Synod, we have grown together as a community of faith. We have supported one another as a community of love; and we have served one another and our brothers and sisters throughout the Diocese of Charlotte, out of a conviction of faith and an experience of God's Spirit at work within us.

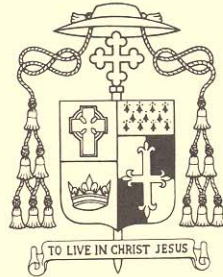
The sole task of this Synod has been to glorify the Lord through the advancing of His Kingdom in this Diocese, at this time, through the men and women who are now providentially the People of God of the Diocese of Charlotte. I am confident that what we propose for implementation will lead each of us and all members of the Church of Charlotte to be mindful of the need for personal and ecclesial purification and the need to reach out and truly be a "light to the nations."

As we begin now the process of implementation, I ask your continued cooperation as we prayerfully heed the goals which will enrich the faith life of our diocesan family and thereby build up the Kingdom of God.

With deep gratitude and appreciation and every cordial best wish, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

  
Most Reverend John F. Donoghue  
Bishop of Charlotte



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## BISHOP'S STATEMENT OF IMPLEMENTATION, MAY 23, 1987

I am pleased to accept all the recommendations submitted to me today, and I will immediately begin the implementation process. Some of the recommendations on the Diocesan level will be implemented immediately; others will be implemented in the months and years ahead. I will instruct our pastors, in conjunction with their parish councils, to begin to look at those recommended goals which can be implemented on the parish level. I will very soon establish a Diocesan Implementation Committee which will work with the Director of the Office of Planning to monitor the progress of implementation and to make periodic reports on that progress.

I am announcing today the establishment of an Office for Parish Life and Worship which will be responsible for Evangelization, Lay Ministry Formation and Liturgy and which will address the following Synod topics:

- 1, 3 & 4 of the Spiritual Life Commission
- 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 of the Lay Ministry Formation Commission
- 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 of the Evangelization Commission

I will appoint a full time Director of this Office by September.

In addition, I am charging the Office of Vicar for Religious to sponsor a program to train priests, deacons, religious and laity as Spiritual Directors in order to insure increased availability for spiritual direction and retreats on the diocesan and parish levels—this, to begin within the fiscal year 1987.

Regarding **Education**, I propose to establish a study committee to devise a restructuring plan for the Office of Religious Education, with the possibility of providing two satellite offices. In addition, I will immediately bring in professional outside consultants to address the financial crisis for our parochial schools.

Regarding **Evangelization**, I will establish a task force composed of representatives from minority communities to look to the establishment of an Office for Minority Affairs.

Regarding **Poverty**, Chris Madigan, Director of the Office for Justice and Peace, will be leaving the diocese to pursue higher studies. I will appoint immediately a new Director for that office, with a background in housing and homelessness, to assist and support the parishes and provide information to the parishes with respect to the various goals prescribed for the parishes.

I will also appoint a group under the Development Office to work out an educational program on Stewardship and guidelines on parish tithing.

Regarding **Lay Ministry**, all five of the recommended goals will be addressed by the Office of Parish Life and Worship.

**BISHOP'S STATEMENT OF IMPLEMENTATION, MAY 23, 1987** *(Continued)*

Regarding **Councils**, I will appoint a committee on Councils which will work with the Planning Office to implement the goals of the Council Commission. I am hereby abolishing Vicariate Councils, but I will strengthen Diocesan Commissions.

To develop structures and processes that are consistent with the theological and ecclesiological principles of Vatican II and in conformity with good administrative and management techniques, detailed guidelines for Financial Councils will be drafted by the Chancery by October, and each parish will be required to begin the establishment of a Financial Council, if one is not already in existence.

Regarding **Growth**, I will appoint a task force under the Chancellor to review, evaluate and revise Parish and Diocesan Administrative systems. I will also ask the Director of the Office of Planning to make a detailed proposal for implementing goals 2 & 3.

Everything ratified and promulgated today will eventually be implemented. The goals that I have mentioned will begin immediately.