



Archdiocese of Pittsburgh and Western Pennsylvania

P.O. Box 1769
Cranberry Township, Pennsylvania 16066-1769

Website: www.ocadwpa.org

Diocesan Hierarch
Right Rev. MELCHISEDEK
Telephone: 724-776-5555

Diocesan Chancellor
VRev. William J. Evansky
Telephone: 724-266-5009

**TO: ARCHDIOCESAN PARISH PRIESTS
PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS**

FROM: ARCHPRIEST WILLIAM J. EVANSKY, CHANCELLOR

DATE: 21 AUGUST 2013

SUBJ: AGE-BASED SURVEY / INVENTORY OF CEMETERIES

Glory to Jesus Christ!

As the Parish Development Program progresses, His Grace, Bishop Melchisedek, the Archdiocesan Council, and the Archdiocesan administrative staff are seriously looking strategically to the future. There are two areas which will immediately draw our attention - an age-based parish survey and an inventory of cemeteries associated with our parishes.

As we look to the future and attempt to see how we might be able to help strengthen our parishes, it is important that we accurately understand the demographics locally. This will help us collectively utilize our God-given strengths. This age-based survey is *not* to be used for official census counting, but rather to assess strategically how best to possibly re-organize the diocesan structure and our local deaneries. The attached form can be easily completed and returned to the Chancery either electronically or paper copy via USPS.

Likewise, the issue of ongoing diocesan financial liability exists with respect to church property - not only churches, but also the cemeteries that are associated with our parishes. Realistically, as the economy and changes in population demographics have affected our region, we have seen areas of decline, and even parish closures. While a church or parish house can be closed or sold, the same is not true of a cemetery which houses the remains of our forefathers. We need to create an inventory of those cemeteries which exist within the boundaries of the diocese. Again, the information requested is fairly simple for our intent, but will provide the type of information that will enable the Archdiocese to begin evaluation and planning.

Please complete the attached form and return it to the Chancery (P.O. Box 1769, Cranberry Township, PA 16066-1769) no later than September 20, 2013. You may also email the information to: chancery@ocadwpa.org. Please phone my Ambridge parish office directly (724.266.5009) if you need to speak with me personally concerning this information or email me (frbill158@verizon.net) with your questions.

His Grace, Bishop Melchisedek, the Archdiocesan Council members, and the Archdiocesan administrative staff appreciate your prompt cooperation.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. William Evansky



Archdiocese of Pittsburgh and Western Pennsylvania

P.O. Box 1769
Cranberry Township, Pennsylvania 16066-1769
Website: www.ocadwpa.org

Diocesan Hierarch
Right Rev. MELCHISEDEK
Telephone: 724-776-5555

Diocesan Chancellor
VRev. William J. Evansky
Telephone: 724-266-5009

NAME OF PARISH _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

DATE: _____ SIGNATURE _____

AGE-BASED SURVEY

[Please use the most up-to-date statistics available when this form was completed]

TOTAL PARISH POPULATION (AGES NEW-BORN - 18) _____

TOTAL PARISH POPULATION (AGES 19 - 30) _____

TOTAL PARISH POPULATION (AGES 31 - 64) _____

TOTAL PARISH POPULATION (AGES 65 - UP) _____

AVERAGE SUNDAY LITURGY ATTENDANCE _____

CEMETERY SURVEY

DOES YOUR PARISH OWN A CEMETERY (YES/NO)? _____

[Continue survey only if the answer is "yes"]

LOCATION OF CEMETERY _____

IS THE LOCATION ADJACENT TO THE CHURCH OR SEPARATE PROPERTY? _____

(If separate) WHAT IS THE LOCATION? _____

APPROXIMATE SIZE OF THE CEMETERY _____

APPROXIMATE UTILIZATION (Approximate percentage filled) _____

DOES A SEPARATE DEDICATED CEMETERY FUND EXIST (YES/NO)? _____

(If a fund exists) AMOUNT CURRENTLY IN THAT FUND _____

ARE THERE PROVISIONS FOR ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS (YES/NO)? _____

ARE BURIALS IN THE CEMETERY RESTRICTED ONLY TO PARISH MEMBERS (YES/NO)? _____

DOES THIS CEMETERY SERVE OTHER ORTHODOX PARISHES (YES/NO)? _____