



September 5, 2010

In early 2008, Bishop Robert N. Lynch charged the Vicar General, Fr. Robert Morris with launching and facilitating a process to reevaluate the use of resources and personnel throughout the diocese in an effort to improve the vitality of parish life as well as the quality of ministry provided throughout the Diocese of St. Petersburg in the local faith community level. The name of this diocesan wide planning process is called *Serving God's People*.

In September St. Peter Claver parish will begin undertaking the *Serving God's People* initiative. A team of parishioners has already participated in training sessions to help introduce the *Serving God's People* process to us in the next few weeks. The diocese is going through this planning process because of three key factors:

1. The number of priests available to serve in the diocese is decreasing.
2. The local demographics have shifted substantially in the past 10 years, and are projected to continue to shift.
3. The continual challenge posed by maintenance and upkeep of facilities, especially when coupled with the recent decline in the economy.

In the weeks ahead you will be hearing more about **Serving God's People** and ways in which you will be invited to participate. So, stay tuned for more information coming to you.

For more information you can go to <http://www.dioceseofstpete.org/> and click on the link "*Serving God's People*" which is located on the left hand side of the front page.

Serving God's People Parish Leadership Team: Fr. Hugh Chikawe, Molbert Scrivens, Fred Braithwaite, Wilma Warren, Gerri Drummond, Dale Brown, TJ Nellum.

If you would like to be a part of the team, please let us know.