



New Ways Ministry

Catholic Church Teaching on LGBTQ Pastoral Ministry

Some Questions for Reflection, Planning, and Journal Writing

1. What emerges from all the documents in this fourth installment is a strong call for Catholic parishes to institute LGBTQ ministry. Far from being “un-Catholic,” establishing such a ministry in your local community would be answering a call from the Vatican and many bishops. Why do you think there is so much opposition to establishing LGBTQ pastoral ministry?
2. What quotations from those quoted in today’s installment do you think would help convince anyone at your own parish who may be opposed to establishing an LGBTQ ministry project?
3. In your parish, how well do the pastoral staff, volunteers, and other parishioners “strive first to listen”? If they don’t, what are some ways that you can introduce that idea to them? If they do, are there any ways that they can improve upon this skill?
4. Is your parish a place where new people feel welcome? If not, what is it about the parish’s local “culture” (customs, traditions, attitudes) that work against welcoming outsiders?
5. Does your parish have any programs or opportunities in place where people feel empowered to share their struggles, joys, needs, and gifts? If so, how open are these programs and opportunities to people who may be different than the majority?
6. How has your community dealt with new projects or “controversial” ideas in the past? What has worked well in this regard and what has worked not so well?