5 Tips for Pastoral Ministry Teams in Times of Crisis for Catholic Leaders

1. Pray
   a. Invite your team to pray on a regular basis as you come together for work purposes, whether online or by phone
   b. Ensure everyone’s participation to create a sense of belonging
   c. Pray for those directly impacted by COVID-19, healthcare and other essential workers, and those who have died

2. Provide Pastoral Care
   a. Encourage your team to continue their own spiritual practices
   b. Make sure to offer pastoral care to your team and to all those entrusted to your ministry and ask how someone is doing before entering into a work topic
   c. Invite team members to express what they might need from each other
   d. Invite team members to share and acknowledge what they may be afraid of losing as a result of the crisis
   e. Find small ways to connect with individuals on your team to affirm what they are doing particularly well during this time

3. Make Plans
   a. Step into your leadership role by setting a vision, rather than just reacting
   b. Ask yourself and your team, what can we achieve in our mission in light of these new circumstances?; what needs to start, stop, or continue?
   c. Implement your pastoral plans and evaluate them on a weekly or monthly basis in light of changing circumstances

4. Overcommunicate
   a. Ensure consistent communications with your team, weekly if not more frequently
   b. Provide accurate and honest information, whether positive or negative

5. Take Care of Yourself and Your Team
   a. Acknowledge that you cannot lead without first taking care of yourself
   b. Be mindful to schedule self-care moments in your daily routine
   c. Encourage your team to do the same, and to be a support to one another

Visit leadershiproundtable.org/covid for further resources or contact our program manager, Peter Denio, for customized support and solutions 201.739.2674 or peter@leadershiproundtable.org.