Diocesan Social Action Office

Reflection and Discussion Questions for Parish Sharing on the Economic Downturn

1. Comment on what you are seeing at your parish or in the larger community about the effects of the economic downturn on individuals and families. Are you hearing reports of home foreclosures, job loss, difficulty in paying bills, need for emergency services? Do you know people personally affected?

2. Has your parish developed any responses to parishioners in need? What programs are being offered? Have they used the Catholic Commission materials on local resources or prayers? Have they developed materials and resources? Has your pastor talked about the crisis? What barriers need to be overcome in order to best help parishioners?

3. Do you have confidence in the economic stimulus as a significant solution to our crisis? How long do you think the recession will last? What do you think that means for all of us?

4. What do you think the role of your parish is in light of this crisis? What do you think the role of the Catholic Commission is in light of this crisis? What are you being called to do – as an individual, as a parishioner, as a member of the larger community? What resources do you need or what actions do you need to take in order to make a commitment to follow the call to action?

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