Principles & Practices for Discerning a Moral Voice in a Time of State Crisis

Vocation and Location

- Identity - who am I?
- Context - where am I?
- Intersection of vocation and location is where authentic self and action are found (being and doing) - if I know who I am and what my role is, then message is “easy”
- How to get there?
  - Advance work on identity
  - Asking self and others
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Practices for Clarity and Strength

- ABCD - what assets do I bring to the context?
- Continued clarification of identity
- Curiosity about context; deepening clarity about context
- Practice intersection of vocation and location
- Additional thought: which of my selves is present?
  - Individual – Citizen – Layperson – Deacon – Priest – Bishop
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Leadership as Spiritual Practice

• In relationship, not isolation
• Community of Wisdom
• Different voices and perspectives
• Allow flexibility in the community of wisdom — add/subtract voices depending on context
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Concrete Practices for Crafting and Sharing Your Message

• **Have a goal**, so you’re not just speaking/issuing statements for the sake of getting out there
• **Know your vision and message**, so you’re responsive but not reactive
• **Know your theological foundations**, so you don’t drift into pure politics
• **Take calculated leap of faith**, realizing diocesan leaders can move out front in ways congregations cannot
• **Do no harm**, denying them temptation to point fingers and score points
• **Say it and go**, because discipline and discernment will always be rewarded