* Invite all Catholic leaders to engage and accompany Hispanic Catholics who find themselves in the peripheries of the Church and society, particularly those who live in at risk situations and are not actively involved in their faith community.

* Identify and promote opportunities for Hispanic Catholic pastoral leaders to serve at all ministerial levels of the Church and the larger society, and increase the number of protagonists in the New Evangelization.

* Stimulate a new wave of faith formation and leadership development initiatives that prepare Hispanic Catholics to share and celebrate the Good News of Jesus Christ and to become leaven for the Reign of God in society.

WHO PARTICIPATES IN THE V ENCUENTRO?

All leaders in arch/dioceses, parishes, lay ecclesial movements and other Catholic organizations and institutions are invited to participate by encountering Hispanic/Latino Catholics, particularly those living in the periphery through the missionary process of evangelization and consultation of the V Encuentro.

HOW DO I JOIN OR SUPPORT THE V ENCUENTRO?

Please start by reaching out any of the team members of this process shown. We are happy to be part of this mission and hopefully we pray you would like to be part of it also with your Talent, Time and Treasure.

**Diocesan Team**

**Most. Rev. Thomas A. Daly**
Rev. Alejandro Zepeda Labastida (Chair)
Sr. Margarita Hernandez, SP
Rev. Daniel Barnett
Mr. Scott Cooper, CRS
Rev. Patrick Kerst
Deacon Gonzalo (Chalo) Martinez
Sr. Marisol Avila, SP
Rev. Gustavo Ruiz

**Bishop of Spokane**
Sacred Heart Parish 509-488-5653
Walla Walla Tri-Parishes 509–529-5141
Bishop White Seminary, 509-313-7100
Catholic Charities, 509-358-4273
St. Thomas More, 509-928-3210
Otis Orchards, 509-263-9553
206-765-7091
St. Vincent Connell, 509-234-2262

Contact us via phone or Visit us on the web: [www.vencuentro.org](http://www.vencuentro.org)
The V Encuentro is a four year process of ecclesial reflection and action that invites all Catholics in the United States to intense missionary activity, consultation, leadership development, and identification of best ministerial practices in the spirit of the New Evangelization. The process has been proposed as a priority activity of the USCCB’s Strategic Plan for 2017-2020. The V Encuentro starts at the grass roots level and calls for the development of resources and initiatives to better serve the fast growing Hispanic population in dioceses, parishes, ecclesial movements, and other Catholic organizations and institutions in light of its theme: Missionary Disciples: Witnesses of God’s Love.

WHAT IS THE GOAL OF THE V ENCUENTRO?

The main goal of the V Encuentro is to discern ways in which the Church in the United States can better respond to the Hispanic/Latino presence, and to strengthen the ways in which Hispanics/Latinos respond to the call to the New Evangelization as missionary disciples serving the entire Church.

WHAT ARE THE OBJECTIVES OF THE V ENCUENTRO?

* Call all Catholics in the United States to become authentic and joyful missionary disciples that give witness to God’s Love with a prophetic voice in a culturally diverse Church.

* Provide a renewed ecclesial vision that develops effective pathways to invite, engage and form Hispanic Catholic youth, young adults, and families to live out their baptismal vocation.

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A message from our Bishop

Brothers and Sisters,

It is with great joy that I announce the V Encuentro in the Diocese of Spokane! The Encuentro process began in the 1970’s, and there have been 4 previous Encuentros (“Encounters”). This process is primarily carried out within those of Hispanic/Latino descent, but it is ultimately an enrichment opportunity for everyone who is formed as Church by our God in the United States. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has called for this V Encuentro, and in our diocese we gladly join with all Catholics throughout the country in participating in the process.

People of Hispanic descent have a long a deep relationship with the Catholic Church, and a uniqueness in being and living out the Catholic faith that is enriching for them and for all Catholics. The Encuentro process recognizes the great giftedness of this experience and practice of the Catholic faith within the Hispanic community, seeks to nurture a deepening in that experience, looks to a strengthening of the life of discipleship of Jesus Christ among all Catholics, and ventures to discern and form a new generation of leaders in the Church. We entrust this Encuentro to our Blessed Mother, especially under the titles of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas, the Immaculate Conception, Patroness of the United States, and Our Lady of Lourdes, Patroness of the Diocese of Spokane.

I urge all parishioners in the diocese to commit to some sort of participation in the V Encuentro. To those of you who are of Hispanic descent, I call upon you to get involved in the process in your parishes and in the diocese.

Non-Hispanic parishioners who are in parishes which offer a specific Hispanic ministry are also invited to participate in this process in your parish and diocese. There will be opportunities for Parish, Diocesan, Regional, and National gatherings throughout the process; the culmination is in September, 2018 in Grapevine, TX., to be followed up by putting into practice the fruits of the V Encuentro in our parishes.

To those of you who are in parishes which do not include Hispanic ministry, I also urge you to participate in the V Encuentro through your prayers and personal commitment. Your parishes will be provided with prayers for the V Encuentro, and information about what is going on in parishes with Hispanic ministry and ideas for your personal prayer and reflection. Remember, the goal is that all parishioners are assisted in growth as disciples of Jesus Christ in His Church through the V Encuentro.

I thank you for your openness to this wonderful opportunity afforded by the V Encuentro, and pray that God in His goodness and mercy bless us with a renewed enthusiasm for the faith and for the Church.

In Christ, I remain…

Most Reverend Thomas Daly,
Bishop of Spokane