



SESSION 5 Role of Grief and Loss Committees

Establishing a grief and loss committee can help members cope with the deep emotions and feelings of grief and loss strategic property planning can evoke. A grief and loss committee:

- ✓ 1. Provides a focal point for listening to members and tending to their emotional needs
- ✓ 2. Is an opportunity to involve members who have special gifts and skills planning and leading pastoral processes
- ✓ 3. Should become involved from the beginning of a strategic property planning process, before the specifics of changes are known
- ✓ 4. Develops and engages membership in processes that help them cope with change
- ✓ 5. Will discover and make available to members useful resources and relevant information
- ✓ 6. Should remain active throughout the strategic property planning process to assure continuity of attention to member emotions and feelings
- ✓ 7. Is often asked to prepare common prayer and reflection materials appropriate to a specific time during planning
- ✓ 8. Brings creativity into prayer services, processes, music, symbols and rituals that weave major events, stories and moments from the institute's history into the present time
- ✓ 9. Can structure and lead communal discernment at appropriate times to contemplate what God is asking of the institute at this time

