The Closing of the Council
Turning to Humanity with Great Love

Interpreting Vatican II
Hermeneutical Principles

- The Intention of the Authors
  - Historical context - internal and external
- The Content of the Texts
  - What is written, and not written
  - Internal structure and coherence
- The Reception of the Texts
  - Hermeneutic of Discontinuity vs. Hermeneutic of Reform
  - Attention to both the text and ‘spirit’ of the text
Vatican II
Concluding Reflections

What have I learned about
• the way God teaches through the Church?
• the ‘pastoral’ way doctrines are expressed to people?

How will I implement the fruits of the Council
• in my own faith and relationship with others?
• in my ministry?