**cacique**(kəˈsik ; kəsēkˈ)

In Native American terms, a Cacique was a community leader that organized the village and led spiritual practice for the group.

**Cacique Groups**

Each of you has been placed in a group of 3, 4, or 5 people. Your job is to get together as a team to be leaders on one day of our pilgrimage. In your cacique group handout you will find the names of your teammates, the date that you will lead, the name of the town you will lead us to and the kilometers of that days walk.

**Expectations**

* Daily Trail Report – provide for our entire pilgrimage team a trail report that includes, but is not limited to the length and elevation of the walk, the weather report, trail conditions, places of rest and nourishment along the trail, and a brief history of the town of our destination that day.
* Communion Wine and Bread – procure from dinner the night before your leadership day, both bread and wine to be served the following morning when your group leads worship.
* Worship Devotion – this can be a reading, a breath session to bring us in to the present moment, a centering prayer, or anything you like.
* Eucharist Leaders – stand with your Priest to assist in the Eucharist celebration
* Trail Shepard(s) – one or more member(s) of the cacique group will be responsible for sweeping the entire pilgrimage team. The Trail Shepard is the last person on the trail that watches over our flock of pilgrims. No one is left behind the Trail Shepard. This very special person is a friend of the present, completely absorbing the gift of each moment, while lovingly keeping watch over us all.

**Reaching the Expectations**

Before arriving in Italy, get together with your group at any time that is convenient for all of you. This can be done in person, email or whatever communication channel you decide is best. Research the part of the trail your group will be leading to learn the history and nuances of that path. Aside from the weather forecast, you will be able to find everything you need for your Trail Report in your research. Select the leader that will provide this report. Appoint a leader within your group to be in charge of procuring the communion wine and bread the day before it is needed. Note it in your calendar with a reminder so you don’t forget. This can be taken from the previous night’s dinner. Greg can store the wine and bread in the Eucharist vessels. With your team, create a devotion for your day and assign the roles you will take to lead us through during that time. Select Eucharist leaders to assist the Priest in the Breaking of the Bread. You will need one person to give bread and another to give wine. Finally, select one or more from your team to be the Trail Shepard, who will watch over us all. Enjoy the gift of being present with your cacique group in the planning process and be present with all pilgrims on your day of leadership. We look forward to sharing in your spiritual gifts. It will be a special time for all of us.