

DMI FINDINGS

STRENGTHS

- Parishioners are enthusiastic about St. Thérèse and 91% of DMI respondents would recommend the church (and its pastor) to a friend.
- 87% of DMI respondents feel “welcomed and accepted” at St. Thérèse.
- 95 to 100% of respondents accept and affirm core Catholic teachings in the Resurrection, Eucharist, and Scripture as the Word of God.
- 87% of respondents agree that the parish provides them with opportunities to serve those in need.

OPPORTUNITIES

- Parishioners feel St. Thérèse could do a better job teaching them about the Bible, how to share a personal faith story, and how to have greater confidence talking about their Catholic faith with others.
- More retreats, workshops, and small group discussions would be welcomed by parishioners.
- The parish could be better at following up with people who offer to get involved, as well as involving people in decision-making and finances.



ABOUT THE DMI

The Disciple Maker Index (DMI) is a survey tool, created by Catholic Leadership Institute to allow parishioners to reflect upon their spiritual growth and discipleship and Identify the ways in which the parish can effectively support that growth.

St. Thérèse parishioners took the DMI survey in 2019 and will take it again at the conclusion of the plan in 2023. In addition to information to be collected as part of the above goals, the DMI tracks agreement with statements like “The parish helps me grow spiritually by offering vibrant and engaging Sunday Masses” and “The parish helps me connect with a local Catholic community by making me feel welcomed and accepted.” This can help St. Thérèse assess its progress in achieving our parish vision.

Want to know more? Visit our website to read the full pastoral plan!

parish PASTORAL PLAN 2020



OUR MISSION

Driven by the missionary zeal of St. Thérèse, the Lord anoints us to proclaim to the poor & broken the Good News that Jesus calls us to abundant life in Him.

OUR VISION

We will be a vibrant and loving community, joyfully living and boldly proclaiming the Gospel, responsive to the needs of the poor and vulnerable, forming disciples and equipping apostles to transform the world.

FROM FATHER TERRY

The parish pastoral plan is the fruit of the Next Generation Parish program from Catholic Leadership Institute (CLI), which we embarked upon over a year ago along with about fifteen other parishes in our diocese. Information was gathered through the Disciple Maker Index survey, as well as interviews with parishioners + staff during a site-visit by CLI. Then the Envisioning Team (twelve members) worked together over ten months to produce the document you are now receiving. It is the fruit of prayer, of dreaming with God's vision for our parish, and of determining attainable goals that will help us to grow into the parish we are made to be. The process continues with an implementation team who will help to pursue these goals via the best possible strategies. The goal of this plan is to focus our parish's efforts to excel in important areas. While we already thrive in some areas, there are many ways we can grow so that we can more fully live out our mission of bringing the good news of Jesus to the world in ways old and new. Through the focused efforts that flow from this plan, may the anointing of the Holy Spirit continue to drive us forward in our work of fulfilling the great commission of Jesus: "Go and make disciples of all nations!" May St. Thérèse continue to intercede for our parish.

OUR PRIORITIES

EVANGELIZATION

Our parishioners will be equipped and empowered to boldly share the gospel and its effects in their lives with the church and unchurched alike.

Goals:

- We will have 50 people each year to have their "Saul to Paul" moment and for ten of those people to be non-Catholics/nonbelievers/unchurched.
- We will have 50 participants in a weekly evangelization program (Metanoia, Alpha) each year. Each year ten of those people will be nonbelievers/unchurched.
- We will train 50 disciples to know + tell the story of Jesus and tell their own story of encountering Him.
- We will increase participation in RCIA by 25% each year.

DISCIPLESHIP

Our parishioners will be nurtured and guided by the parish to continually deepen their relationship with Jesus so that they can truly follow Him in every aspect of their lives.

Goals:

- We will have a 5% increase in the number of parishioners who use Confession, engage in individual prayer, or attend a workshop/class on a monthly or more often basis.
- In response to the question "Where are you on your Catholic journey?" 45% of our parishioners will say they have a "personal relationship with Jesus Christ." (Current response rate is 36%)

ACCOMPANIMENT

We will establish and develop meaningful connections within our parish family + local community, growing in awareness of the sacredness of each person and walking with them as we journey together toward heaven.

Goals:

- We will create a strategy for consistent outreach to parishioners, especially those who may be less connected to the parish.
- We will match every new parishioner/family with a parish companion family within three months of their registration.
- We will have at least 75 different parish families participating in the household program.

OUR CORE VALUES

AUTHENTIC ACCOMPANIMENT

People before projects.
Focused toward Jesus, together.
Owning our littleness.

"The closer my union with You, Jesus, the more I love all my sisters without distinction." St. Thérèse

JOYFUL RECEPTIVITY

Learning to hear God's voice.
Trusting that everything is grace.
Dreaming God-sized dreams.

"O my God, You have surpassed all my expectations." St. Thérèse

SACRIFICIAL GENEROSITY

God first, others second, I am third.
I let God interrupt my plans.
I have gifts worth giving.

"I have never given God anything but love and it is with love He will repay." St. Thérèse

