

Pastoral PLAN

PURPOSE STATEMENT

Our parish purpose is to open the door to divine encounter so that our community can fall in love with Jesus Christ and to nurture our relationship with Him.

VISION STATEMENT

St. Patrick Parish will be a welcoming community of disciples growing together through the sacraments and service to others. Together, we will be a more joy-filled place of worship, and continue to be a light for the surrounding communities.

PARISH PRIORITIES

Priority: *Facilitate Divine Encounter*

Definition: To facilitate Divine Encounter means to create opportunities for our parishioners to fall in love and stay in love with Jesus, knowing that God desires a deep relationship with us.

Rationale: Jesus died out of love for us and so that He could bring us into union with the Trinity. If we are in love with Jesus, we are fully engaged in the Mass, the Sacraments, and our Catholic faith. Jesus is pursuing deep friendship and relationship with each of us, and the Church's mission is to create an opportunity in which this love can begin and deepen. Our parish survey shows that our parishioners are missing opportunities for Divine Encounter through the Sacraments and sacramentals. Survey respondents also indicated that having a "personal relationship with Jesus" and "growing as a disciple" were two areas of desired growth.

Desired Outcomes:

- Increase the number of parishioners who attend Eucharistic Adoration.
- Attract more parishioners to participate in Scripture study or prayer groups.
- Engage more parishioners in the Sacrament of Confession.
- Form parishioners as Disciples of Christ.



Priority: *Build the St. Patrick Community*

Definition: St. Patrick Parish will grow and be stronger by welcoming and reaching out to new and inactive members of the community. We are multiple generations and the parish needs to play a more significant role in each person's life and in the surrounding community.

Rationale: The parish vision needs to be supported by a welcoming community united in Christ. This community will grow through participation in the sacraments and service to others while providing a joy-filled place of worship and being an inspirational light to the world.

Desired Outcomes:

- Enhance our ability to make people feel welcome and accepted.
- Grow the number of people who share their personal witness story.
- Increase our willingness to invite someone to join us for Mass.
- Increase our willingness to invite someone to participate in a parish activity or event.



Priority: *Cultivate Parish Engagement*

Definition: To foster a familial environment that allows our parishioners to deepen caring relationships with one another and grow together in their faith through active involvement in parish ministries, workshops, and other community events.

Rationale: The unity and diversity of individuals within the parish deeply enriches the overall church community. Our parish survey shows that parishioners are longing for more engagement and desire to grow deeply in their faith through increased participation in parish activities. "So we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually parts of one another." (Romans 12:5)

Desired Outcomes:

- Increase weekly mass attendance.
- Increase the number of parishioners actively involved in the parish community activities.
- Grow our number of parishioners.
- Offer more opportunities to experience the spirit of the parish community.



PARISH VALUES & BELIEFS

Parish Value: *Faith*

Definition: We are a community of faith responding to God by growing spiritually and living according to His word.

Examples of ways we live out this value:

- Share our faith in God with others which will strengthen our faith and the faith of others.
- Continue to make prayer and worship fully accessible to the community so that everyone can participate in the sacramental life of the church.
- Volunteer in faith formation opportunities each year to further strengthen our connection to Christ.

Parish Value: *Fellowship*

Definition: A friendly association among those with a shared interest. Our fellowship will be to engage with and support one another in our parish community through the church, school, and parish activities.

Examples of ways we live out this value:

- Come together as a community and practice our faith as one unified church.
- Attend parish social gatherings.
- Support parish sponsored charitable causes and activities.
- Engage in a community activity to practice our faith together and support the local area, outside the "walls" of our parish community.

Parish Value: *Joy*

Definition: (*Drawing on John 15*) Our parish believes that Jesus abides in us, and as we grow in faith and thankfulness that His joy is within us, our joy becomes more complete. We realize that joy as we come to Him in the Mass and Sacraments.

Examples of ways we live out this value:

- Gratefully receive Him in the Sacraments, especially Holy Eucharist and Reconciliation.
- Spend time with Him in the Blessed Sacrament in Adoration.
- Recognize Him as He abides in our sisters and brothers, especially those who are in need, and those who are in different places along their faith journey.



Pastoral Team & Council

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Jerry Fahey | Steven Garofano
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Caroline Stansbury | Kara Tabella