



Goals for 2020-2025

Mission Statement

To serve the spiritual needs of our community through the sacraments and teachings of the Catholic faith, reaching out through prayer, faith, and charitable works to improve life and bring Christ's love to all.

Vision Statement

Our vision is to be an active engaged community of Christ's disciples welcoming everyone through evangelization.

Prepare future parish leaders

Objective:

Ongoing training and formation.

Strategies:

1. Discerning of charisms through the Called and Gifted workshops.
2. Additional programs and a mentoring program.
 - a. Dcn. Leon Dodd and Colette Souder have been trained as leaders in the Called and Gifted program and have started offering classes in the parish.

Observable:

Participation by parishioners.

Measurable:

Track attendance at programs and number of parishioners stepping up to leadership positions.

Retain and strengthen the development of our religious education program

Objective:

Utilize Catholic multimedia platform resources.

Strategies:

1. Engage recently confirmed youth.
 - a. Ongoing process communicating to recently confirmed youth.
 - b. Convey and reinforce benefits of Catholic lifestyle and values.
2. Institution of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd atrium and program for young children.
 - a. Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is in its 2nd year of operation offering classes to PreK and Kindergarten children.
3. Applied and received grant money for small group programs.

Observable:

Increased participation by youth in parish programs and activities.

Measurable:

Track number of youths in programs via year-to-year class numbers.

Track number of youth participating in parish activities.

Intensify and strengthen interaction of current parish leaders to communicate and engage parishioners

Objective:

Identify Blount County residents who have fallen away from the faith or left the parish since the COVID-19 pandemic. Engage them via interactive platforms and outreach programs.

Strategies:

1. Healing Ministry every 3rd Sunday in the chapel.
2. Engage parishioners to query friends or family that are non-participating currently.

3. Send out mailers and emails to absent parishioners asking for reasons.

Observable:

Increased attendance at weekly and weekend masses since COVID-19 ended.

Measurable:

Track attendance at activities. Track stewardship through giving of time, talent, and treasure.

Integrate the diverse cultural communities of the parish

Objective:

Unite cultures and traditions to establish one diverse community that shares a common love of Christ and his Church.

Strategies:

1. Hispanic community inviting the whole parish to join in spiritual events.
 - a. Pentecost International Dinner, La Kermess, rosary at the statue of Our Lady of Fatima, Posadas, etc.
2. Further need for bilingual masses and events involving both communities with invitations extended by both communities.
3. Garner ideas from each culture on improvement processes.
4. Small group of women putting up images of ethnically diverse saints in Social Hall monthly.

Observable:

Participation by all in activities.

Measurable:

Track number of parishioners attending cultural and cross-cultural parish events.

Create a greater Catholic citizenship relationship in the parish

Objective:

Engaging the social justice ministries of the parish and social justice initiatives and events in our local community.

Strategies:

1. Outreach to the homeless, Martha's Hands, Community Food Connection volunteers, CCW Blessing Box, Warming Shelter volunteers, Comfort Food, Family Promise, Good Neighbors, and St. Joseph's Helpers.
2. Seek information on additional social justice programs in Blount County.
 - a. Invite organizations to annual picnic and Harvest of Blessings.
3. Seek opportunities to partner with other denominations to increase charitable works.

Observable:

Parishioners communicating about community opportunities for service and the development of social justice ministries.

Measurable:

Track time and talent of parishioners in activities in the community.

Develop inviting strategies for engaging parish members

Objectives:

Create an environment where parishioners are empowered to build up the parish and God's Church.

Strategies:

1. Beauty and Grace, Martha's Hands, St. Paula Ministry, Wisdom and Grace, Healing Ministry, and Care for Creation are some of our newer ministries.
2. Seek input on ways to involve and develop the parish.

Observable:

Increase in activities.

Measurable:

Track participation in ministries and the number ministries.