

SAINT ELIZABETH ANN SETON PARISH

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Goal 1. Liturgy and Worship

To enhance our liturgies and liturgical spaces, increase active participation at Mass and other liturgical events and foster Catholic devotions.

- 1.1 Develop a greater awareness that more people are needed to become involved in the different ministries. Opportunities to serve are available in all areas. Find better ways to recruit volunteers. Measure success by keeping track of the number of new parishioners who volunteer in the next 6 months.
- 1.2 Provide more money for the Music Ministry so that music can be expanded both in the number of musicians and providing music at all masses. Measure success by noting the increase in budgeted funds.
- 1.3 Purchase and install a system to project words and music to eliminate need for purchase of music books. Develop a simple Return on Investment calculation to show how long it will take to pay for this cost, noting that it costs approximately \$2,000 per year for the purchase of new hymn books.
- 1.4 Repair and/or replace Chalices, cruets, etc.
- 1.5 Organize group of ushers and greeters to be available at each mass.
- 1.6 Establish and publish specific times for rosaries and devotions to Our Lady.
- 1.7 Enhance value of Homily by developing themes around: Church History, Catholic Education, and History of the Bible, Saint's Lives, Church rules and regulations. Tie the Homily more closely to the readings.

Goal 2. Catholic Education and Evangelization

To live and share the Good News through education and evangelization: Faith formation, RCIA, Youth and Adult Programs.

- 2.1 Provide faith formation programs such as adult Catechism and other Diocesan sponsored programs. This will include the development of workshops on the Catholic Faith and doctrine.
- 2.2 Provide annual outreach to the community to explain the Catholic Faith by sponsoring events and speakers.
- 2.3 Create a monthly calendar of learning opportunities that include, lectures, films, trips, and retreats on specific so parishioners can plan their attendance in advance.
- 2.4 Continue to recruit for and reinforce RCIA.
- 2.5 Provide for the ongoing formation of Catechesis and the recruitment of volunteers.
- 2.6 Use technology as a tool to teach the Catholic Faith by using applications such as FORMED, develop the live streaming of Mass, and the improvement of the website to incorporate the new technology.
- 2.7 Form a technology ministry to assist in the effective use technology within the Parish.
- 2.8 Improve the program for receiving the first Sacraments.

Goal 3: Fellowship

To enrich our parish family by gathering for social occasions other than liturgical and educational events.

- 3.1** Establish and publish a “Master Calendar” that provides dates for events on an annual basis.
- 3.2** Create small fundraisers that will contribute both financially and socially to the Parish fellowship goal.
- 3.3** Create group activities such as movie evenings, dinners, games, picnics, music/sing along, dances and Sunday hospitality.
- 3.4** Schedule periodic bilingual masses to support the diversity in the Parish.
- 3.5** Continue International Festival, Kermes, Tamales Festival, etc., and expand outreach and food booths.

Goal 4. Stewardship of Time and Talent

To strengthen our parish family with the involvement of more parishioners in various ministries and with the coordinated effort of volunteerism.

- 4.1** Create a list of service opportunities and follow-up on volunteers. Work to create a critical mass of supporters who will attend, support and strengthen the programs.
- 4.2** Develop a volunteer appreciation program that will recognize all the volunteers in each ministry and encourage ongoing participation.
- 4.3** Publish more frequent information or minutes of the Pastoral Council so that the parish understands what plans are being discussed. Do the same with the Financial Committee. Understanding and knowledge encourage long term giving.
- 4.4** Establish a “terms” membership on the Pastoral Council so that only ½ the members are changed every year or two. Create a “Chair” and “Vice Chair” who will move up into the “Chair” position to provide continuity of service and planning.

Goal 5. Stewardship of Treasure

To foster a parish-wide sense of ownership of parish and programs, with both personal and parochial commitment to fiscal responsibility and sacrificial giving.

- 5.1** Encourage more giving by parishioners in volunteer time, dollars, donations or “in-kind” items needed.
- 5.2** Create fund raising activities to supplement our budget. Create a list of giving programs that are available.
- 5.3** Improve Annual giving campaign by sharing detailed information after each Mass. Distribute in written form and review explanation of where and how the money is used to the benefit the parish. Explain the role of the Diocese in this program to help remove misconceptions regarding the campaign.
- 5.4** Teach and encourage the biblical requirements and responsibilities of giving without guilt.
- 5.5** Foster long term philanthropy through donations from estates and wills to include property and investments, not just cash.

- 5.6** Develop a coordinated fundraising program that includes the appropriate recognition to those who give. Differentiate between large scale fundraising (Annual Diocesan Giving) and smaller local programs. Organize and encourage “in-kind” giving as well as financial. Don’t just ask for money, explain what it will be used for at the church. Acknowledge when appropriate!

Goal 6. Outreach

To express in works of charity our call to holiness, our call to see Christ in everyone, especially in the marginalized, a call that extends far beyond mere financial support, for it calls the parish to stand for justice and to support the poor.

- 6.1** Schedule visits by Father, Deacon, and volunteer parishioners to long-time parish members, the sick and those inactive. Publish who has been visited in these pastoral visits in the bulletin.
- 6.2** Have a “Blessing of the Animals” and publicize the event as means to interest the community back to the Parish.
- 6.3** Continue to announce projects for the homeless such as Peoples Kitchen, food drives, etc., and ask for volunteers and then have a representative at the church exit to speak with parishioners about what is needed.
- 6.4** Develop a “Bereavement” group to assist with funerals and sickness with the parish families.
- 6.5** Develop a caregiving network to assist those who are ill and in need of help with chores, meals, attending appointments and companionship.
- 6.6** Establish a fund through donations to support those in need such as the St. Joseph’s fund and other types of donations including gift cards.
- 6.7** Develop networking opportunities with other organizations with common goals.

Goal 7. Communication

To promote communication and interaction among our various organizations, councils, committees, boards, ministries, etc. as well as public relations within and outside of the parish.

- 7.1** Publish more frequent information or minutes of the Pastoral Council so that the parish understands what plans are being discussed. Do the same with Finance Committee.
- 7.2** Develop avenues of communication from the parish that includes the use of the bulletin, website, social media, brochures and bulk mail.
- 7.3** Develop periodic surveys to gain insight to what is important to our parishioners. This will include topics such as long term planning and their opinions regarding what they like and don’t like with the parish. Rotate topics to include physical attributes of the Parish and Pastoral issues. To accommodate anonymous opinions, a standardized form and suggestion box will be made available.
- 7.4** Finish the parish registration form and encourage parishioners to complete the form in an effort to communicate directly with them.
- 7.5** Improve the effectiveness of the weekly bulletin including a strategy to retain current sponsors and gain new ones in the future. Seek direct support from the parish to enhance the value to parishioners.

Goal 8. Buildings and Grounds

To be attentive to current and future needs of all buildings and grounds.

- 81** Maintain buildings and grounds in a consistent manner such that maintenance and gardening is not deferred for major lengths of time. Provide adequate financing for this in the parish budget.
- 82** Replace seating in the church to more permanent style
- 83** Create an enclosed (fenced) safe and supervised play area for children to be used after Mass during hospitality.
- 84** Install a projection system for use at Mass to show the music and words for songs rather than purchasing books annually.
- 85** Pursue better signage at the corner of LOVR and Palisades Avenue.
- 86** Complete needs assessment survey of the buildings and grounds which will be used to develop a master plan for the Parish properties.
- 87** Build the Adoration Chapel at the bequest of Grace