

Saint Paul Parish Goals - June 2005

These are the goals formulated by the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) with input from hundreds of parishioners. When the PPC meetings resume in September, members will work on a Plan of Action outlining the specific steps and resources required to bring the goals to fruition. This is something for our parish to celebrate and to pray for the continual guidance of the Holy Spirit as we build the Kingdom of God!

Goal: Building Community

We are committed to building stronger common unity among the members of St. Paul parish family, fostering new relationships and building on existing ones, by sharing fellowship and serving one another.

- A. We will develop a plan for building a welcoming close-knit community, especially among the newest members. The plan will encourage each member, new and long standing, to connect with others in our parish family so that we will feel comfortable with one another and drawn together to build each other up as a parish family
- B. As people who share beliefs and values, we want to strengthen and build on these relationships with social and service activities. We will share meals and socialize in other ways together as well, just as the early Christians did.
- C. Every family member is a vital part of the Body of Christ, called by Christ to serve one another. Each member will be encouraged to serve our parish family. Opportunities to serve will be communicated clearly, through a variety of means.

Goal: Parish Communications

We will provide frequent, thorough, and accessible communications regarding parish issues, events, and opportunities to the parish as well as the community at large. Through improved communication we will seek to more fully engage all parishioners in the spiritual and/or temporal life of the parish and we will be better able to meet the diverse spiritual and temporal needs of parishioners and to the needs of the larger community.

- A. We will strive to make parish notices more frequent, thorough and easy to read. We will continue to seek feedback to determine how we are meeting this goal by understanding where people are getting their information from and whether or not it was clear. We will strive to make sure that all acronyms are spelled out and there are no assumptions made as to the background knowledge of the intended audience

- B. To reach the maximum number of parishioners, we will employ multiple communication avenues such as but not limited to the Sunday bulletin, email, Parish Website, the internet, posters, flyers, telephone tree, bulletin boards, kiosk, etc. Every event or announcement will use a minimum of three (3) methods of communication.
- C. We will create a hand book for new parishioners that acts as a guide to parish life at St. Paul's. Included in this handbook will be a list of all ministries with contact information, a list of all groups with description of activities, and any general information that would be helpful to a new or newly active parishioner.

Goal: Formation

We will support the ongoing spiritual growth of our parish family by providing resources for Catholic formation at every stage of spiritual development.

- A. For those adults who wish to learn more about our faith, we will provide a variety of opportunities to grow in our knowledge of Christ such as Bible study, Catholic social teaching, parenting workshops, retreats, and other educational opportunities.
- B. Evaluate the needs of our middle school age children and develop creative and engaging education and social programs that prepare them to become closer to Jesus.
- C. Provide self-study resources including a library of books, tapes, CD's and other information sources to promote personal study of the Catholic faith and spiritual life.

Goal: Parish Administration

We will build an administrative and physical infrastructure that facilitates and motivates the St. Paul community as we carry out our mission of meeting the spiritual and social needs of our parish members.

- A. Maintain and improve the church and other physical components of the parish to enhance the worship, formation, social, and business activities of the parish.
- B. Provide an administrative support organization that facilitates the active participation of parishioners in all parish activities, coordinates parish events, encourages the personal growth of the pastoral team, and continually seeks and listens to parishioners' ideas and suggestions.
- C. Meet the near-term financial needs of the parish, and strengthen the financial foundation of the parish, through coordinated, balanced, and sound financial planning.