

Saint Ann Parish Pastoral Plan
Rev. Peter Lynch- Pastor
481 Brewster St, Bridgeport, CT 06605

ST. ANN MISSION STATEMENT: The parishioners of St. Ann Church are called by God, through the Holy Spirit and our Savior, Jesus Christ, to praise, love, and worship God through the celebration of the Sacraments and especially the Eucharist. Under the patronage of our beloved St. Ann, Mother of Mary and Grandmother of Jesus, we hope with deep humility to be a loving, caring, giving, and forgiving community in the service of all whom we touch in our daily lives. Guided by the teaching of Our Lord found in the Good News and in the traditions of the Church, we strive to be a Beacon of Faith, Hope, and Love, and a Harbor of Peace

Diocese of Bridgeport Parish Pastoral Plan “Building a Bridge to the Future”

Part One: Introductory Information

Parish:

St Ann Church

Pastor:

Rev Peter Lynch

Date:

9/15/2016

Parish Task Force Members:

Leadership Position:

- 1) Dolores Castillo
- 2) Donna Demattia
- 3) Angela Doroszkiewicz
- 4) Robert Ferraro
- 5) Sally Jacko
- 6) Pam Lefleur
- 7) Amy Salvaggio
- 8) Donna Terenzio
- 9) Cesar Vertiz

Signature of the Pastor: Rev. Peter J. Lynch

Pastoral Challenge #1:

□ Pastoral Challenge to be addressed: Evangelization and Education

A. Rationale for Choosing this Priority Area:

Evangelization is the centerpiece of the church's mission. As such, it must be the focus of any work undertaken to improve how our parish serves the community. Encompassing many diverse and complementary aspects of parish life and ministry, evangelization and education are centered on two ideas: how can we best enable the people to encounter Christ and, then having been made aware of that encounter, witness to it both explicitly and implicitly in their everyday lives.

Educated parishioners will be more engaged and invested in their personal relationship with God, and will, by his teachings engage and invite more people to attend Mass and will be more likely to grow as leaders. Liturgy is the living word of God, through which we can experience the mystery of Christ and the real nature of the Church. Through weekly Mass and daily prayer, we build strong spirits and understanding.

B. Statement of the First Goal to be achieved:

Increase full, conscious and active participation of parishioners in the celebration of Mass

a. Action Step# 1 to achieve the Goal: Offering of children's liturgy/prayer books for children/teens

Summary Information for Action Step #1:

Provide prayer books for children/teens to engage youth to understand the importance of Mass.

Engaging the teens and children in Mass is a challenge, connecting with them via prayer books that help explain the Mass and tie it in to life activities, experiences can help open the dialog between children/parents and priest/leaders.

(less distracted children; active and engaged children become active/engaged teens-adults-parents)

- Timeline for completion : 3Q 2017
- Responsible person/Task Force: Refer to Liturgical Committee; October agenda item

- Diocesan Office assisting (if any): N/A
- Projected Costs (if any): TBD- depending on choice of liturgy materials

b. Action Step #2 to achieve Goal: Purchase of new Spanish hymnals

Summary Information for Action Step #2:

Spanish Mass is new to St Ann Parish, having hymnals for Spanish community will help engage in the participation of Mass, as well as feel welcome and included.

- Timeline for completion : completed May 2016; need for additional hymnals TBD
- Responsible person/Task Force: Cesar Vertiz
- Diocesan Office assisting (if any): N/A
- Projected Costs (if any): \$10 per unit

c. Action Step #3 to achieve Goal: Make Homilies available

Summary Information for Action Step #3: Explore opportunities to use all forms of media to promote the works of the parish community such as televised Mass or recorded homilies to minister not only to those who come to our community regularly, but those who find themselves outside of it.

- Timeline for completion: 1Q 2017
- Responsible person/Task Force: Father Lynch
- Diocesan Office assisting (if any): N/A
- Projected Costs (if any): recording device (~\$100)

C. Statement of the Second Goal to be achieved:

Develop a comprehensive and integrated parish education ministry which provides opportunities for, and encourages parishioners of all ages to grow in their love of God and knowledge of Catholic doctrine, build community, promote service to others and deepen one's desire for holiness

a. Action Step# 1 to achieve Second Goal: Expand youth ministry program

Summary Information for Action Step #1:

Publicize monthly “Family Mass”

- Timeline for completion: in progress
- Responsible person/Task Force: Diane Scott, Director of Religious Education and Trevor Kelly, Youth Minister and 1 volunteer
- Diocesan Office assisting (if any): N/A
- Projected Costs (if any): N/A

b. Action Step #2 to achieve Second Goal: Develop Youth leaders via Vacation Bible Camp and Youth Ministry

Summary Information for Action Step #2: developing youth leaders inspires children to become leaders.

- Timeline for completion :June/July 2016 – annual reoccurrence
- Responsible person/Task Force: Diane Scott, Director of Religious Education and Trevor Kelly, Youth Minister
- Diocesan Office assisting (if any): TBD
- Projected Costs (if any): TBD

c. Action Step #3 to achieve Second Goal: Participate in activities with other Catholic Youth via National & Regional Catholic Youth Conference

Summary Information for Action Step #3: Connect the youth with diocesan and national youth conferences, which will enable youth to encounter Christ and, then having been made aware of that encounter, witness to it both explicitly and implicitly in their everyday lives.

- Timeline for completion : Date of Conference TBD
- Responsible person/Task Force: Trevor Kelly, Youth Minister
- Diocesan Office assisting (if any): TBD

- Projected Costs (if any): variable-dependending on conference (e.g. Steubenville, Convivio)

d. Action Step #4 to achieve Second Goal: Increase Adult formation and pre sacramental Classes

Summary Information for Action Step #4:

There is a definite need to expand the educational opportunities for first time parents in pre-baptism classes, as well as the opportunity to complement religious education for youth with formation programs for parents of children in sacramental preparation classes, increased opportunities for volunteer engagement and service, and more informal opportunities to engage in catechesis between parishioners and parish clergy

- Timeline for completion :

- Responsible person/Task Force: Diane Scott, Director of Religious Education
Fr. Peter Lynch and 1 volunteer

- Diocesan Office assisting (if any): N/A

- Projected Costs (if any): TBD; depending on educational materials selected

Pastoral Challenge #2:

□ Pastoral Challenge to be addressed: Empowering Lay Leadership

A. Rationale for Choosing this Priority Area:

The laity is the foundation and backbone of any vibrant parish community. Only in an active collaboration with the laity can the clergy effectively minister to the diverse needs of the parish. Through our self-evaluation and the results of the Disciple Maker index, we identified that, while most parishioners feel they are informed and that the parish administration is transparent, the parishioners are seeking a more active role in the decision making. It is our beliefs that empowering the lay leadership in the parish will enable the community to grow and thrive even more, allowing the introduction of new ideas, talents and ministries that can better serve the needs of the people. Moreover, empowering the lay leaders in the parish will have a continued impact on efforts for evangelization and formation; which can only be done with the entire community working together.

B. Statement of the First Goal to be achieved:

Expand the opportunities for the laity to have input on parish administration and decision making.

a. Action Step# 1 Restructuring the membership of the Parish and Finance Councils

Summary Information for Action Step #1:

Design and implement a restructuring of the Parish and Finance Councils, including the identification of potential new members from the parish community and implement elections to fill at least half of the seats on the parish council with the remaining seats filled at the discretion of the pastor.

- Timeline for completion : 2Q 2017
- Responsible person/Task Force: Parish Council and Father Lynch
- Diocesan Office assisting (if any): N/A
- Projected Costs (if any): N/A

b. Action Step #2 to achieve Goal: Restructure the mission and philosophy of the Parish Council

Summary Information for Action Step #2:

Produce a new document of policies and procedures for each council, in accordance with already established diocesan policies, specifically addressing the jurisdiction of each council, their respective relationships with the pastor, as well as terms of membership and continued membership.

- Timeline for completion : 2Q 2017
- Responsible person/Task Force: Person(s) work in collaboration with Father Lynch
- Diocesan Office assisting (if any): Provide policies guidelines
- Projected Costs (if any): N/A

C. Statement of the Second Goal to be achieved:

Empower the laity to take on an active role in the pastoral ministry of the church, cooperating with and supporting the pastoral and sacramental ministry of the ordained clergy.

a. Action Step# 1 to achieve Second Goal: Expand the role of the laity in new or expanded pastoral ministries.

Summary Information for Action Step #1:

Identify/expand and implement three outreach ministries (including a ministry team to reach-out to those who have left the parish) that can be developed, overseen and executed by the lay parishioners to support the work of the ordained clergy and fulltime parish staff, such as bereavement ministry, hospital and homebound ministry and crisis/emergency support team.

- Timeline for completion: 4Q 2016 to identify and 3Q 2017 for implementation
- Responsible person/Task Force: Parish Council and 2 volunteers from Men's Group
- Diocesan Office assisting (if any): N/A
- Projected Costs (if any): N/A

b. Action Step #2 to achieve Second Goal: Expand the role of certain hospitality ministers at parish events

Summary Information for Action Step #2:

A key aspect of empowering lay leadership is to initiate feeling of ownership of the parish. By expanding the roles of hospitality ministers (including young adults/children), not only at liturgical functions, but also at parish events and functions, this sense of ownership can be facilitated and the laity more empowered to take on new roles.

- Timeline for completion : 2Q 2017
- Responsible person/Task Force: Parish Council and volunteers
- Diocesan Office assisting (if any): N/A
- Projected Costs (if any): N/A

Temporalities and Administrative Challenge: Worksheets for Parish Goals and Action Steps

Please note: One Worksheet must be completed for each temporalities challenge to be addressed

A. Temporalities and Administrative Challenge to be addressed:

- Buildings and Facilities

B. Rationale for Choosing this Priority Area:

Our greatest need is to replace the entire church heating system, which will not make it through next harsh New England winter and repair the bell tower which is leaking and causing significant damage on the inside of the church. This must be repaired to preserve this landmark in our community.

While fixing the bell tower and replacing the heating system will not cause an increase in parishioners, poorly maintained facilities may prevent parishioners from attending.

C. Statement of the Third Goal:

Hire contractor for estimates of cost and time needed to start and complete repairs

a. Action Step# 1 to achieve Third Goal:

Summary Information for Action Step #1:

- Timeline for completion: Estimate Date: 2Q 2017
- Responsible person/Task Force: Finance Committee
- Diocesan Office assisting (if any): N/A
- Projected Costs (if any): \$400,000 (includes cost of adding air conditioning to the heating system)

Action Step #2 to achieve Third Goal:

Raise funds via the G.I.F.T Capital Campaign to cover cost for the replacements

Summary Information for Action Step #2:

- Timeline for completion: In progress
- Responsible person/Task Force: Finance Committee
- Diocesan Office assisting (if any): N/A
- Projected Costs (if any): TBD

a. Action Step #3 to achieve Third Goal:

Summary Information for Action Step #3:

- Timeline for completion:
- Responsible person/Task Force:
- Diocesan Office assisting (if any):
- Projected Costs (if any):

(Please repeat the sections above if you propose additional action steps to complete Third Goal)

Optional Question:

- 1. If you had the ability to respond to a third pastoral challenge, which would you choose and why?**