

DIOCESE OF BRIDGEPORT PARSIH PASTORAL PLAN
“Building a Bridge to the Future”

Parish: St. Elizabeth Seton, 520 Ridgebury Road, Ridgefield, CT 06877

Pastor: Rev. Joseph A. Prince

Date: September 27, 2016

Parish Task Force Members	Leadership Position
Rev. Joseph A. Prince	Pastor
Rev. Justin Raj	Parochial Vicar
Marie Trebing	Religious Education
Gigi Pekala	Religious Education
Jim Bruno	Men’s Club
Cindy Bruno	Youth Group
Gina Donnarummo	Youth Group
Rich Adamski	Men’s Club
Ellen Adamski	Vacation Bible Camp
Kelly Malloy	Parish Council
Cindy Markovitz	Parish Council
Matt O’Brien	New Parishioner
Kaitlyn O’Brien	New Parishioner
Tom LeFebvre	Finance Council

All the members of the Finance Council are very much involved with the Parish Pastoral Plan, especially in the area of Finances.

Rev. Joseph A. Prince
Pastor

SES PARISH PASTORAL PLAN - 2016

Pastoral Challenge to be addressed:

1. EVANGELIZATION

Rationale for choosing this Priority Area:

To help parishioners and their families develop a deeper understanding and appreciation of their Catholic identity, and help them to be living witnesses of the Gospel values.

C. Statement of the first goal to be achieved:

To stir the embers of faith in the parishioners to a deeper relationship with the Lord and lead them back to the richness of faith-life, and celebration of the sacraments through catechesis.

a. Action Step # 1 to achieve the goal:

Parents of children making their sacraments will have a 20 min. Catechesis on the sacraments by Father Prince.

Summary of Information for Action step # 1:

Timeline: October 2017

Responsible person: Fr. Prince, Marie Trebing, Gigi Pekala & Kelly Molloy

Diocesan office assisting (if any): none at this time

Project Costs (if any):

b. Action Step # 2 to achieve the goal:

A 10 lecture series will be made available to all parishioners - monthly on topics of Catholicism.

c. Action Step # 3 to achieve the goal:

Speakers will be researched to offer presentations to the parishioners on spirituality and faith.

Summary of Information for Action step # 2 & 3

Timeline: October 2017

Responsible persons/Task Force: Fr. Prince, Jim Bruno, Rich Adamski, Cindy Markovitz, Kaitlyn & Matt O'Brien

Diocesan office assisting(if any): None

Project Costs: \$ 1,500 / speakers' fee tbd.

Pastoral Challenge to be addressed:

2. LITURGY AND WORSHIP

Rationale for choosing this Priority Area:

To offer well planned and relevant liturgies to various age-groups of the parish and to increase participation in the celebrations.

Statement of the first goal to be achieved:

To increase participation of parishioners across generations at the liturgies and to increase the number of parishioners serving the community in liturgical ministries.

a. Action Step # 1 to achieve the goal:

To offer refresher courses to all liturgical ministries and to recruit new members for ministries, especially to the ministry of "Greeters" .

Summary of Information for Action step # 1:

Timeline: October 2017

Responsible persons/Task Force: ministry leaders/ Marie Trebing Gigi Pekala & Fr. Justin Raj

Diocesan office assisting(if any): none

Project Costs (if any): none

b. Action Step # 2 to achieve the goal:

To develop a Babysitting Cooperative to allow parents of young children to attend Mass, liturgical celebrations or other parish activities.

Summary of Information for Action step # 2:

Timeline: October 2017

Responsible persons/Task Force: Fr. Prince, Jim Bruno, Rich Adamski, Cindy Markovitz, Kaitlyn & Matthew O'Brien

Diocesan office assisting (if any): none

Project Costs (if any): none

TEMPORALITIES AND ADMINISTRATIVE CHALLENGES TO BE ADDRESSED:

FINANCES

Rationale for choosing this priority area:

In the last two fiscal years, the parish has been running at an operational breakeven pace. The regular operational income has not exceeded the operational expenses for the parish, Religious Ed, Youth Groups and Music Programs. The parish has become increasingly dependent on the "Emergency Fund" receipts to cover the operational expenses.

Statement of the Third Goal:

Develop a long-term sustainable operating plan where the parish's normal operations, including the above mentioned programs, is fully funded by the regular weekly collections, and annual fund-raising activities.

Action Step #1 to achieve the third goal:

Within the fall Finance Review from the pulpit, update the parish on the current state of the parish and request parishioners to increase their weekly giving by 10%. Additionally, request additional parish families to participate in the weekly collections.

Summary Information for Action Step # 1:

Timeline for completion: October 2016
Responsible persons: Finance Committee
Diocesan office assisting (if any): None
Projected costs (if any): No additional cost

Action step # 2 to achieve the third goal:

Review all operational expense items and look for cost reductions or eliminations in order to bring expenses in line with current and projected income.

Summary information for action step # 2:

Timeline for completion: Spring 2017
Responsible persons: Finance Committee
Diocesan office assisting (if any): None
Projected costs (If any): No additional cost

