

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

Part One: Introductory Information

Parish:

St Rose of Lima

Pastor:

Msgr Robert Weiss

Date:

06/30/2016

Parish Task Force Members:

- 1) Laura Brennan
- 2) Michael Brennan
- 3) Beth Groomell
- 4) Linda Iassogna
- 5) Mike Iassogna
- 6) Amy Taylor
- 7) Matt Taylor
- 8) Mark Renzi
- 9) Audrey Sedensky
- 10) Joseph Ratyna
- 11) Msgr Robert Weiss

Leadership Position:

Catechist
Catechist
Separation/Divorce Support Group
Women’s Ministry
Men’s Ministry
Youth/ Young Adult Ministry
Youth/Young Adult Ministry
Catholic School parent
Teen member
Knights of Columbus
Pastor

Signature of the Pastor: _____

Pastoral Challenge #1: Worksheets for Parish Goals and Action Steps

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

A. Pastoral Challenge to be addressed:

Catechesis and Education

Evangelization

Family Life

Leadership

Liturgy and Worship

B. Rationale for Choosing this Priority Area:

We realize the importance that catechesis plays in the life of a family. Many of our parents do not feel adequate to teach their children because of the lack of formation they had as students. There is also a great deal of confusion about the teachings of the Church in these contemporary times. We feel that education is the key to helping parishioners better know and live their faith.

C. Statement of the First Goal to be achieved:

To provide broad based religious education and formation from cradle to grave for parishioners and their families.

a. Action Step# 1 to achieve the Goal:

There will be a series of meetings with task force members and parishioners. Each task force member has been asked to identify 15 parishioners for these small group meetings and to follow questions the task force developed. These questions are based on thoughts that resulted from a brainstorming session by task force members based on their own personal and parish experiences.

Summary Information for Action Step #1:

- Timeline for completion : September 7, 2016
- Responsible person/Task Force: Mike and Laura Brennan
- Diocesan Office assisting (if any):
- Projected Costs (if any): None

(Please complete this page only if the parish plan proposes additional action steps to realize its First Goal)

b. Action Step #2 to achieve Goal:

Based on feedback, we will do a thorough review of our present catechetical programs. At present, we have many programs that are available in addition to the traditional Religious Education classes and Religion taught in our school. We feel that that are many issues that contemporary Catholics need. Issues such as basic Church doctrines and dogmas, why we believe what we believe, the sacramental life of our Church. Also, we are concerned that certain individuals are being alienated from the Church because they do not fully understand Church teachings on issues such as divorce, homosexuality, assisted suicide, medical procedures especially for fertility, etc.

Summary Information for Action Step #2:

- Timeline for completion : June, 2017
- Responsible person/Task Force: Catechetical Staff
- Diocesan Office assisting (if any):
- Projected Costs (if any): None

Pastoral Challenge #2: Worksheets for Parish Goals and Action Steps

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

A. Pastoral Challenge to be addressed:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Catechesis and Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Leadership |
| X Evangelization | <input type="checkbox"/> Liturgy and Worship |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Life | |

B. Rationale for Choosing this Priority Area:

We are striving to “retrieve” Catholics who used to be active in the parish but no longer are active. We have noticed that there are many parishioners who no longer attend Mass who once were active participants. What issues do we need to address in order to encourage their return to Mass and parish involvement.

C. Statement of the Second Goal to be achieved:

Where have they gone? Is the basic premise from which we are operating to address this priority.

a. Action Step# 1 to achieve Second Goal:

Our small group meetings will include parishioners who are no longer active in the parish or attend Mass. In our task force discussions, we have realized how many once active parishioners there are. We have developed a strategy that will enable them to discuss their present attitudes about Mass attendance in the context of the small group without intimidating or embarrassing them. Questions such as what it means to be a Catholic, are the liturgical celebrations meaningful, or do you feel welcome in church.

Summary Information for Action Step #1:

- Timeline for completion: September, 2016
- Responsible person/Task Force: Mike and Linda Iassogna
- Diocesan Office assisting (if any):
- Projected Costs (if any): None

Action Step #2 to achieve Second Goal

Based on the data and information we are able to glean from our discussions in small groups, we hope to identify the issues which are affecting people's lives. We are planning on publishing a handbook for the parish indicating our many ministries, purpose of the ministries, contact persons, course or program content or curriculum, etc. We also plan to print this in our local newspaper for those Catholics not affiliated with the parish presently. We feel that many people are not aware of the many ministries and programs we have as well as the many qualified ministers and individuals who coordinate these programs.

Summary Information for Action Step #2:

- Timeline for completion : Spring 2017
- Responsible person/Task Force: Beth Groonell
- Diocesan Office assisting (if any):
- Projected Costs (if any): \$2000-\$3000.

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
- Community Life
- Finances

B. Rationale for Choosing this Priority Area:

We are already in the planning stages of the renovation of the church vestibule, the construction of a memorial bell garden and a new parking lot with better lighting and security.

C. Statement of the Third Goal:

In order to better facilitate gathering space for the parishioners before and after liturgies, we need an adequate vestibule area. We also received a gift of four bells from the Franciscan Fathers as a result of the 12/14 tragedy that need to be put in place. Finally, in keeping with the new security measures recommended, we need safer parking and better lighting for our evening activities.

a. Action Step# 1 to achieve Third Goal:

We have already met with the Sacred Arts Committee and Building Committee of the diocese. They have approved our plans, We are waiting for the Bishop's approval to begin the process. A committee is already in place.

Summer, 2016 – Complete architectural drawings to present to a construction firm.

Fall, 2016 – Present plan to the parish. It has already been approved and reviewed by the Pastoral Council, Finance Council and Task Force as well as parish staff.

Winter, 2017 – Interview and hire fundraising company and construction company

Summer, 2017 – Initiate the funding campaign in conjunction with the diocesan capital campaign

Winter, 2018 – Begin construction

Summary Information for Action Step #1:

- Timeline for completion: as above
- Responsible person/Task Force: Msgr Weiss
- Diocesan Office assisting (if any): Sacred Arts and Building Committees
- Projected Costs (if any): \$4million