

“Saint Andrew: Our Parish, Our Vision, Our Future”

Issue #3

Saint Andrew Informational Bulletin

Parish Planning Team Creates Challenges

The Parish Planning Team (PPT), consisting of over 200 parishioners, have concluded their work over the past 5 months. The Parish Planning Teams have produced 65 challenges, in eight defined planning areas. These challenges will be reviewed and solutions given at our Parish Convocation on Sunday, August 27th.

Challenges Created

Buildings and Grounds

1. How do we complete the Parish Hall to maximize it's usefulness to the various organizations of the church?
2. How do we make the church more visually appealing, both interior and exterior?
3. How do we develop a Master Plan to get things done in a prioritized manner?
4. How do we use the church space more effectively to accommodate more worshippers at mass?
5. How do we provide convenience and adequate parking for all parish functions?
6. How do we determine what other buildings are needed to handle other areas of church needs?
7. How do we improve security for church and grounds?

Church and School Relationship

1. How do we develop an oversight committee to be stewards of both Saint Andrew Parish and Saint Andrew's School in financial matters?
2. How do we unite the parish and school in more social/spiritual events?
3. How can we develop a parish structure that prevents duplication of services and allows for better management of facilities?
4. How can we enable our priests to be more involved with the children in the school?
5. How can we communicate to families the availability of financial assistance for providing a Catholic Education to their children?
6. How can we effectively communicate the financial status of the parish and school to all parishioners and school families?
7. How do we get the best parts of the school and parish to work for the benefit of each other?

Liturgy/Music/Spirituality

1. How do we restructure preparation and celebration of the sacraments of Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation to increase the quality of receiving them?
2. How do we ensure the mass at Saint Andrew is celebrated to better reflect the awesome gifts of God's Word and His real presence in the Eucharist?
3. How do we develop an inspiring music program that enhances the Liturgy of the Word and the Eucharist?
4. How do we increase and strengthen the spirituality programs that are available to Saint Andrew parishioners?

5. How do we empower our priests to have time to be more involved in the spiritual direction of the parish, especially, in areas of Mass and Sacraments to minister to parishioners and communicate to parishioners directly?
6. How do we set up a method of communication between priests and parishioners so people have a chance to speak before big changes are made to liturgical services?
7. How can we encourage decorum and reverence in church and chapel?

Communication

1. How would we create and implement a cohesive and coordinated communications plan for the parish?
2. How do we ensure that all communications are faith focused?
3. How do we interact/coordinate with the staff, other teams, and other ministries to meet and assist with their common needs?
4. How do we measure the effectiveness of our communications and ensure that feedback is received, documented, organized and acted upon?
5. How do we identify and take advantage of technologies to improve communications parish wide?
6. How do we keep and foster the human relations aspect of the communications process?
7. How do we develop a plan to communicate and deal with external media organizations?
8. How does this committee continue to stay focused and committed?

Involvement of People

1. How can we make parishioners and visitors feel welcome and create enthusiasm that will lead to committed participation in our parish family?
2. How do we foster a sense of ownership by all parishioners, so that they truly feel this is their parish?
3. How do we identify the need of people in their various life stages?
4. How do we show appreciation to all and create a virtuous cycle of volunteers?
5. What methods can we use to understand what is working well and build on those solid foundations already in place?

Management/Leadership/Finance

1. How can we create a staff system where the department heads are accountable to an empowered oversight board and to the pastor?
2. How can we create, enthusiasm and responsibility in the fund raising process?
3. How do we facilitate our pastor's willingness to embrace this process by empowering and utilizing the capable, talented, and passionate parishioners of Saint Andrew?
4. How do we create an empowered parish oversight board to help manage and communicate the fund management process consistently and in a timely fashion?
5. How do we develop a business like structure to create current and future strategic planning and continuity for the parish?
6. How do we create a conduit for more effective communication of accurate, complete and comprehensive financial information?
7. What kind of organizational structure should be put in place and enforced to assure an efficient and inclusive operation?
8. How do we relieve the priests of management/non-clerical duties that can be done by qualified and dedicated lay people, thus allowing the true Stewardship of Talent to take effect?
9. How do we increase giving by all parishioners to financially sustain the church and change the "Catholic" mentality of giving?
10. How do we improve efficiency?
11. How do we insure that our parish leaders are responsive and accountable to the needs of the parishioners?
12. How do we prioritize needs and programs of the parish and establish a process to identify them?
13. How do we establish, implement and update a Master Plan for the parish that is all encompassing to include leadership, finance, spirituality, ministries, priest shortages and the needs of the parishioners?
14. How does the leadership effectively communicate priorities, progress, success and shortfalls to the parish?
15. How do we ensure we have effective, efficient and professional staff that will and can understand and meet the needs of parishioners?

Outreach and Social Ministry

1. How can we address the needs of our aging, sick and homebound members of our community?
2. How can we better deliver the services of Social Ministry to all members of our Parish?
3. How can we educate and implement Catholic Social teachings in our parish?
4. How can we identify and meet the needs of the Latino members of our community?
5. How can we address tithing and its relevance to Social Justice?
6. How can we implement the areas of the diocesan Synod as applicable?
7. How can we utilize, expand and streamline our volunteer core?

Youth and Young Adult

1. How do we make Religious Education more effective for pre-school, grade school, high school, college and young adults, including exposure to religious?
2. How do we generate funds, facilities, resources and staff to support youth and young adult programs?
3. How do we create a unified community between public, parochial and private youth, where we can enjoy our lives together in a Christian environment for everyone?
4. How do we acquire a youth director that will be conscious of the needs of the youth and address those needs and wants?
5. How do we ignite the passion for involvement and keep the fire burning for our youth ministry programs for the participant's parents and volunteers?
6. How does our church community establish a system of welcomeness, openness, acceptance for young adult families with young children?
7. How do we develop a youth education planning group, including a youth mass organizing group with the youth mass entirely run by youth?
8. How do we incorporate "fun" into activities for our youth, which would increase attendance, lead to involvement and create a sense of true ownership by the youth of their faith?
9. How do we establish a communication network to support youth activities?

Convocation Date Set

On Sunday, August 27th, Saint Andrew Parish will hold a Convocation. The Convocation will an opportunity for all parishioners to give their answers to the challenges that have been created.

So please make plans to attend this very important Convocation, which will help shape the future of your parish.

MARK THIS DATE:

**Sunday, August 27th
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM**