

Somerville Catholic Collaborative Local Pastoral Plan

Purpose:

Our collaborative purpose is to use our faith in God, our love of the Church, and the diversity of our parishes to build a vibrant and welcoming community that teaches, nurtures and inspires all of us to forge stronger relationships with Christ and with one another. These powerful relationships will enable us to fearlessly spread the Word of God, bringing others closer to Christ through His Church.

Values:

Faith - We believe that all people are called to share in the gift of faith in Christ, and will work to grow in our own faith so as to draw everyone to Himself and His Church.

- We will engage in faith formation opportunities for spiritual growth.
- We will share our relationship with Christ with those we meet.
- We will cultivate a personal openness to the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
- We will regularly participate in the sacraments of the Church.

Hospitality- We recognize that we, as a diverse community, are the Face of Christ and His Church to those we meet, and look to maintain a welcoming and accepting environment for all of God's children who are seeking Him.

- We will be open to God.
- We will promote an inviting and engaging atmosphere where the faithful can share their gifts
- We will offer a cordial and generous reception to visitors at our parishes.
- We will be a collaborative where our diverse voices will be represented

Communication - We will maintain clear and open dialogue focusing on the best ways to serve Christ and the community.

- We will reach out and proclaim Jesus to those around us.
- We will work to share the Good News of Christ through our outreach programs.
- We will use multiple platforms to promote the good news of Christ and His Church.
- We will take advantage of opportunities to have conversations about our faith community.

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Vision:

With the implementation of our pastoral plan we envision a welcoming and diverse Tri-parish Collaborative, with engaging, vibrant and reverent liturgical celebrations in multiple languages. There will be diverse times for prayer, Mass, adoration, fellowship groups, Catholic education, and reception of the sacraments. Building a culture of Catholic Christian identity, parishioners will take ownership of their faith, focusing on establishing a community of service, understanding, and friendship centered on Christ, calling forth each individual's vocation in the Church.

Priorities:

1. Strengthening Our Celebration of the Sacraments

Creating vibrant liturgical celebrations (i.e., Mass, Adoration, Confession) that engage people of all ages, cultures and languages, will help all parishioners to deepen their relationship with Christ.

SMART GOAL #1
By June 1, 2018, we will have developed a schedule for Adoration, Confession and Holy Mass that will remove obstacles to access and allow for a rich and reverent celebration of the Sacraments
SMART GOAL #2
By June 1, 2018, we will form hospitality ministry teams to welcome those who come through our doors for weekend Masses.

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2. Promoting a Culture of Vocations, particularly to the Diocesan Priesthood

Vocations are important for the growth of the Church as a whole. We need to encourage all parishioners to discern their vocations in life, but with a special emphasis on the priesthood to serve the people of God.

SMART GOAL #1

By June 1 st of 2018, we will have created a Collaborative Vocation Team consisting of at least six and no more than ten volunteers.

SMART GOAL #2

By June 29 th of 2020, our Collaborative Vocation Team will have implemented at least three initiatives to create a culture of vocations within each parish.

3. Developing Small Group Discipleship

We recognize that our Faith is dependent upon our relationship with one another, as we are all members of the Body of Christ. These relationships are brought about, developed and strengthened by belonging to a vibrant and caring Christian community of which all feel part. Development of small groups will be imperative to the growth and success of the great commissioning to “go forth and make disciples of all nations.” As we develop into a more vibrant and growing community, we need to embolden men and women to take leadership roles in their faith and to help establish these kinds of small groups.

SMART GOAL #1

By Lent 2020, 8 newly formed small faith sharing groups will be meeting regularly within the collaborative.
