

## Watertown Catholic Collaborative: St. Patrick and Sacred Heart Parishes

- **Vision**

- Five years from now, the Watertown Catholic Collaborative parishes want to be ever more passionate, energetic, and hospitable, built upon faith and centered around the Eucharist. We will be working together to help parishioners grow in their love for Christ and neighbor, as manifest by increased generosity and mercy. Inspired by God's love, we will reach out, proclaim our faith, and invite others to know Christ, to share in the celebration of the Mass, and to participate in the life of His Church.

- **Welcoming goals** - Enhance the welcoming spirit of Sacred Heart and Saint Patrick parishes by:

- Goal 1: Have formed greeters at every Mass (9 at St. Patrick's and 4 at Sacred Heart each weekend) by June 1, 2021.
  - *Key Strategies and Milestones*
    - Invite parishioners to participate in the greeting ministry by September 2019.
    - Offer initial formation session (train the trainer) to initial group of greeters by October 2019.
    - Launch initial greeting program at Masses by November 2019; achieve full ministry team by June 2021.
    - On an ongoing basis, invite others to join the ministry; offer recurring training.
- Goal 2: Share parishioners' faith stories via the parish and collaborative website, e-mail, and social media platforms on a quarterly basis by June 1, 2021.
  - *Key Strategies and Milestones*
    - Improve web technology platform to be more interactive and video capable by January 2020.
    - Invite parishioners to Disciples in Mission training in Fall 2018; attend trainings in Winter 2018 and 2019.
    - Begin sharing faith stories at Mass Spring 2019 and online June 1, 2021.

- **Charity goal** - In an effort to become a more charitable community, our collaborative will host 6 acts of mercy annually, by January 2020.

- One of the 6 acts of mercy will be the annual U.S. Mission trip.
  - *Key Strategies and Milestones*
    - By end of 2018/Jan 2019, reach out to public service professionals, first responders, staff, and other persons of interest to solicit input on how we can implement 6 acts of mercy. Topics of interest to consider are:
      - Prison ministry
      - Food/St. Vincent de Paul Society
      - U.S. mission trip
      - Homebound ministry
      - Spiritual wellness/retreats
      - Pour N Spirits
    - By September 2019, invite individuals (likely key contacts from first milestone) to lead the charge on the 6 selected acts of mercy. With their input, create detailed strategies to roll out budget, key volunteers, outreach for support. Establish a Mercy team responsible for the roll out of the acts of mercy.
    - Communicate and promote the acts of mercy to the parishes in Sept 2019. Launch acts of mercy by Jan 2020.

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- **Growing in faith goals –**
  - Goal 1: Host 10 class-sponsored Masses with the involvement of parents and students including one witness talk at the end of each Mass and a post-Mass coffee social by the end of the end of the 2019-2020 school year.
    - *Key Strategies and Milestones*
      - Faith formation leaders to schedule Masses for the 2019-2020 school year: 8 at St. Patrick's (grades 1 and 2 combined) and two at Sacred Heart.
      - Faith formation leaders to identify and invite parents to participate at the Masses (as lectors, reading the prayers of the faithful, taking up the collection, and presenting the gifts).
      - The leader of the faith stories goal to invite 10 individuals to share their witnesses at the Masses.
      - Faith formation leaders to invite catechists to develop "takeaway" cards to have available at the coffee social after Mass.
      - Coffee and donuts already provided.
      - Faith formation leaders to inform families about the Masses through the faith formation program.
  - Goal 2: By the spring of 2019 invite the families of the children baptized in our parishes within the past five years to a first annual reunion, during which young parish families will be present to share witness and offer community.
    - *Key Strategies and Milestones*
      - Create mailing list, mail invitations, and manage responses by January-May 2019.
      - Plan venue and food by January 2019.
      - Identify parents to welcome and share faith during event.
      - Host event Spring 2019 (post Easter, April 21<sup>st</sup>).
      - Send thank you notes and questionnaires before June 1, 2019.
- **Vocations goal:** Each school year, starting 2018/2019, generate a list of candidates and send 2 teenagers/young men to each type of Archdiocesan vocations event, e.g., Saint Andrew's dinner and discernment retreats age 18 and over.
  - Implementation strategies: To attain this goal, we will regularly try to stir the hearts of young men and the parents of students by:
    - *Key Strategies and Milestones*
      - Sponsoring an annual vocations panel for faith formation students and parents, grades 7-10;
      - Inviting young men from the confirmation program to be altar servers;
      - Identify 3 people in each parish to lead the effort to recruit families each week to take home the statue and pray for vocations;
      - Identify the Eucharistic prayer team (Sept-Jan) to start the Vocations prayer team and Vocations team in January 2019;
      - Periodically throughout the year, preaching about vocations (seminarian witness talks/religious sisters)
      - Educating parents about vocations and how to talk to their children about ways in which God is calling them, e.g., at faith formation parent meetings, through a panel like the vocations panel but focused on supporting parents in helping their children identify God's plan for their lives, and through a field trip to the seminary; and,
      - Encouraging the faithful to ask young men if they have considered the priesthood if they believe the person might have a vocation.