# ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH STRATEGIC PASTORAL PLAN

Town Hall Meeting | Monday, April 25, 2022



## Fr. Jovita's Introduction

The Pastoral Advisory Council (PAC) has been working on a five-year pastoral plan for our parish. The goal is to have a working document for us - a document that will help direct the life of our parish based on four pillars:

# Fellowship · Education · Spirituality · Welcoming

#### Fellowship

Our parish is established as one that feeds us from the table of the Lord and then gives us the opportunity to share with our brothers and sisters in a fraternal spirit. Are we hosting enough events that bring us together? Do our facilities need improvement to promote better, more enriching programs? How can more families participate in our family-oriented events?

#### Education

Are we really producing well-formed Catholics, or are we just following routines? What do we have for people of all different ages? Are there age groups that are being neglected in our formation and education? Do we plan our education all the way "from cradle to grave"? How involved are parents in the formation of their kids, and what do we do to help them fulfill their role as the primary educators of their children? Are we fostering a good relationship between our parish and our school? What more can we do to fully make these two campuses one, united institution?

#### Spirituality

Our parish is a Christ-centered parish where the Holy Eucharist is the key to everything we do. Are we really doing whatever is needed to pass this message to all parishioners? Do we have enough programs that point to the Eucharist as our focal point? Devotion to the Saints (especially the Blessed Virgin Mary) is a defining practice in the Catholic faith. Is this practice adequately encouraged at All Saints?

#### Welcoming

Our parish is All Saints. All Saints means that all belong here and should be welcomed here. Are we doing enough in this regard, or is there more that needs to be done to give credence to our name? Do the new visitors that come into our parish feel welcome from the first moment we meet them? Do we do enough to accommodate the diverse cultures that we have at All Saints?

**In Conclusion,** there are a lot of questions, and we are asking you to be part of finding the answers. I want you to bring your questions and ideas forward so that we can create a better All Saints family. Become part of this effort to create a better home for all of us and those that will come after us. Remember, we are here today because some people in 1976 made sincere efforts and sacrifices to create a befitting home for us that we are still enjoying today. We can build on their good works and create a better place for generations to come.

## Got Questions or Ideas? Want More Information? Email <u>PAC@allsaintsdallas.org</u> | Visit <u>www.allsaintsdallas.org/plan</u>

## · Fellowship ·

## Definition

Fellowship is the body of the faithful joined together by common faith in Christ, common worship, and common allegiance to the Church's divinely established authority. Typically, this happens in a more social and informal setting while still being deeply rooted in the other pillars.

#### Goals

Create or define an easy path for involvement in the activities of our parish (i.e., where do people go after they are "welcomed"?)

- ◊ Give parishioners clear points of contact (staff or ministry leads) for needs that arise
- ◊ Launch semi-annual Ministry Fair

#### Explore an investment in facilities and grounds that support parish fellowship of all kinds

- Overlop a plan for parishioners to flow in and out of Mass through the courtyard to encourage fellowship before and after Mass: playground, outdoor gathering space, accessibility
- ♦ Maximize these investments by increasing social events and activities available to parishioners and the broader community

#### Create a model of small community groups where parishioners in the same season of life have opportunities for fellowship and faith-sharing in their own backyard

- Pilot a program with small community groups that works in tandem with the upcoming Family Catechesis
- ♦ Model programs after "Empty Nesters" and apply it to other "same season" life groups

# $\cdot$ Education $\cdot$

## Definition

Education at our parish includes all activities of the All Saints Community focused on introducing people to the person of Jesus Christ and learning more about the Catholic Faith.

#### Goals

Re-focus education on quality formation of the family and of the entire person – regardless of where they are on their faith journey

- Merge the domestic church with the larger All Saints Community. Recognize the role of families in all aspects of parish life
- ◊ Raise awareness around new Family Catechesis programming, the rationale behind the movement, and empower each family involved to create a self-sustaining program
- ♦ Inventory and audit our current programming and build a solid foundation of staff, volunteers, resources, and infrastructure to support a program that guides interested parishioners to the opportunities most appropriate for them

# Invest in the continued connection between the school and the parish to create an exemplary model of the ideal parish-school relationship

- ♦ Explore a unification of the branding of the parish and the school
- ◊ Commit to additional organic interaction between parish and school events, ministries, and initiatives
- ♦ Ensure that all significant investments in our physical infrastructure include both campuses and all ministries

#### Recruit, prepare, and inspire a dynamic volunteer base to support the life of our parish

- ♦ Increase the commitment to creating a culture of stewardship where participation in parish life requires commitments of Time and Talent
- ♦ Make an investment in aligning the strengths of each parishioner with the opportunities that exist to serve
- ♦ Document the roles, responsibilities, and best practices so that self-sustaining volunteerism is possible
- In the natural life cycle of an organization, there will always be turnover and people moving on. An inspired community would quickly become self-sustaining, and a pool of volunteers would be prepared and motivated to step in as one group moves on.

# · Spirituality ·

### Definition

'Spirituality is how we encounter God and God's love and how we share that message of love with others.'

Spirituality does not focus only on the spiritual and hereafter; our spirituality is not to be cloistered from real life but put to work in the world bringing to ALL our brothers and sisters the Christian message of Hope, Faith and Love—especially to those most lacking.

Our pillar seeks to find opportunities for spiritual growth and sharing of the Truth and Traditions of our Catholic Faith.

#### Goals

Undertake a thoughtful exploration and facilitation of *Vertical Spirituality* for individual parishioners and their personal relationships with Christ

- ♦ Spiritual Retreats
- ♦ A ministry of Spiritual Directors
- ♦ Parish Devotions
- ♦ Individual study and other initiatives
- ♦ Work towards personal witness between parishioners

Expand opportunities within our parish for *Horizontal* spiritual growth through communal experience for all ages and stages to better experience the lived results of a fruitful spiritual life

- ◊ Spiritual Healing and Communal Growth
- ♦ Community Outreach
- ♦ Ministry Fair
- ♦ Mission Trips
- ♦ Pilgrimages

# · Welcoming ·

## Definition

Welcoming is a continuous, positive, and encouraging attitude of invitation and inclusion, expressed in behaviors and the design of our facilities, to include personally inviting newcomers and guests to activities and including them once they are present and shown by parishioners and staff to each other in all settings and methods of communicating.

#### Goals

#### Develop a welcoming culture within the parish community of All Saints

- ♦ Develop a statement defining and describing a 'welcoming culture'
- ♦ Roll out welcoming culture training sessions to all ministries
- ♦ Conduct an assessment to confirm success in establishing this culture

#### Develop a welcoming strategy

- ◊ Establish which staff and ministries have more direct responsibilities for welcoming initiatives
- ◊ Update, expand, and implement the range of 'how to' methods for being welcoming
- ◊ Assessment to confirm success in establishing a welcoming culture throughout the parish

#### Develop both short- and long-term plans for making a visible difference

- $\diamond~$  Identify several activities or physical modifications that can be done soon
- ◊ Consider the development of social media initiatives targeted for 'pre-newcomers' as well as newcomers
- ◊ Identify physical modifications of a more significant nature for both the church and the school

# PASTORAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

## **Current Members**

Marissa Walton - Chair	
Alex Acuña	Ron Kwiat
Kevin Bedford	David Leininger
Elizabeth Dominguez	Barbara McAninch
Catherine Foxworth	Matthew Raney
John Furton	Rita Reis
Andy Garcia	Garice Schneider
Paul Kamanda	David Weatherford

The Pastoral Advisory Council is a small group of parishioners who work directly with Father Jovita to accomplish the goals and mission of our faith community.

There is a rotating three-year term with five current opportunities for parishioners to contribute their talents for the greater glory of God in our community. New term begins September 2022. Applicants must:

- Be enthusiastic and willing to actively serve on various strategic projects
- Have been a member of All Saints Community for at least one year
- Be Safe Environment Cleared
- Available to meet on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm
- Be willing to collaborate with a servant's heart and mind
- Assist in meeting the needs of the Parish

For more information, please email <u>pac@allsaintsdallas.org</u> or complete the application below:







All Saints Catholic Church 5231 Meadowcreek Drive Dallas, TX 75248