

St. Anthony Parish Pastoral Plan 2015-2016

I. Pastor's Vision Statement

As we look to the future, St. Anthony's Parish should strive for a vision that aligns with the universal mission of the Church. We must become ever more focused on our primary responsibility—the worship of God, and the many other aspects of parish life that flow from that. We are a missionary people, and we must therefore consider evangelization as a central element of our endeavors. This begins within the parish itself and includes religious education and our Catholic school. We must then become visible and active within the larger community as people who make Jesus Christ and His Church present to the world. At the same time, we must never forget that our goal is the Kingdom yet to come, the Kingdom of Heaven. Above all, we are a Eucharistic people. Our Lord has given us this great Sacrament of Himself to strengthen us in this life and to prepare us for the next. It is the Eucharist that not only empowers us to grow personally, but also enables us to be the image of Jesus Christ that the world so desperately needs.

II. Financial Environment of the Parish

The financial environment of St Anthony of Padua has remained stable for the past several years, and the parish has been able to meet or exceed the annual offertory budget. St. Anthony's parishioners have also been generous in meeting and exceeding our BAA goals and have supported a food pantry as well as area homeless ministries, a crisis pregnancy center and many other charitable efforts. The Parish has not had an annual deficit and has successfully invested \$1.4 million dollars of parish assets to support one of our largest missions, St. John Paul II Catholic School (SJPII), in the last 10 years. It is the responsibility of each one of us to be constantly mindful of our finite resources and judiciously carry out our mission.

III. Priorities and Goals

PRIORITY –PROMOTE THE LIFE AND DIGNITY OF THE HUMAN PERSON

Goal A Promote Pro-Life issues to our parishioners and community.

1. Vibrant participation in Pro-Life events such as the Right to Life March in Washington, D.C., with Knights of Columbus organizing transportation for parishioners to attend, and the youth trip to the Love My Life Rally in Raleigh.

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2. Continue monthly monetary donation (\$600.00) for Life Care Pregnancy Center.
3. St. Anthony Guild will continue their annual baby shower for LCPC.
4. The Parish will hold a diaper drive twice a year for LCPC.
5. The Parish will hold an annual baby bottle campaign for LCPC.
6. Continue Pro-Life bulletin board in parish hall with new information.

Goal B Develop a program for youth and school parents at SPJPII regarding Pro-Life education.

1. Develop middle school Pro-Life curriculum in conjunction with the Diocese.
2. Implement Pro-Life topics in Religion curriculum.

Goal C Provide for the less fortunate in our parish community through our We Care program.

1. Continue to encourage donations of food from our parishioners to ensure adequate supply for the emergency food pantry located in and operated by St. Anthony parish.
2. Continue Pope John Paul II School food drives.
3. Continue to support the homeless in our community by providing housing and food on a quarterly basis through the Family Promise Program.
4. Continue to receive and distribute donated household items for those in need through our We Care program.
5. Continue to implement an Adopt-a-Child Christmas program which provides Christmas presents for those needy families approved for the program.
6. Continue to provide a free Thanksgiving dinner to the needy in the community.
7. Continue to help fund the interfaith organizations in Southern Pines operating to assist those in need.

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Goal D Prison Ministry

1. Continue to expand our Deacon in his prison ministry:
Moore County Jail on as-needed basis;
2. Hoke Correctional Institution- Resource council vice chair, Appointed by the Governor, Ecumenical prayer service on Third Sunday and pastoral counseling on as-needed basis;
3. Lumberton Correctional Institution: On three Saturdays the Deacon conducts Sunday celebration in the absence of a priest and 15–35 inmates receive the Eucharist. This service is currently on hold.

PRIORITY – FOCUS ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, EVANGELIZATION, AND SACRAMENTAL PRACTICE

Goal A Provide varied opportunities for adults in the parish to grow their Catholic Faith.

1. Continue to provide an attractive CD lending library and written handouts through the Lighthouse Media kiosk in church and in the SJPII office.
2. Continue Study Groups, Bible Studies, and Prayer Group that meets regularly throughout the year. Host faith-themed speakers for SJPII parent meetings weekly at PJPII School.
3. Continue adult group to study the Catholic Catechism and re-present the “Catholicism” video series both at the parish and the school.
4. Provide two events annually for adult spiritual enrichment, i.e.: Parish Mission, and Eucharistic Adoration.
5. Continue daily Eucharistic Adoration on week days following noon Mass till 8PM with evening prayers and benediction.
6. The Knights of Columbus will continue to facilitate families to lead weekly Rosary before all week end masses.
7. Continue to live stream the 11AM Mass on Sundays for those unable to attend Mass due to health or age.

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8. Use the live stream technology to project the Mass on the large screen in the parish hall to alleviate over-crowding when needed such as the Christmas Eve and Easter Sunday Masses.

Goal B Support and Integrate Parish Human and Financial Resources for the success of SJPII School.

SJPII is dedicated to preparing the hearts and minds of our students for spiritual growth, academic excellence, personal responsibility, and service to others according to the teachings of the Roman Catholic faith. SJPII strives to foster an environment that is available, accessible, and affordable for children and their families with a shared commitment to the following beliefs: Each person is created by God and deserving of love and respect. A Catholic education exemplifies and is faithful to the teaching Magisterium of the Church. Faith formation encourages a continuous collaboration between the school, family, and community. Students witness to the global community by serving the spiritual and social needs of others. Instruction and assessment addresses the diverse needs and abilities of all students by teaching the whole child: mind, body, and spirit.

SJPII must be fully integrated into the hearts and minds of the parish in order for it to succeed in its mission of evangelization of the faith to and within the larger community.

Goal D Continue to form catechists in faith.

1. Continue to provide opportunities for catechist training and catechetical certification both locally and on the Diocesan level.
2. Continue to enhance our catechist mentoring by placing new catechists in classrooms with experienced catechists.
3. Offer a retreat once a year for all catechists in the parish and religion teachers of SJPII to participate in.

Goal E Provide varied opportunities for continued education to parents with children in the religious education program.

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1. Provide an attractive CD lending library and written handouts through the Lighthouse media kiosk accessible to parents on Wednesday evenings.
2. Provide specific opportunities for parental involvement in the classroom setting.
3. Form a Safe Environment team of objective parties not to include religious education coordinators or catechists.
4. Promote Ignited by Truth to school families, staff, and all parishioners.
5. Families and staff invited to SJPII School weekly Mass and also monthly Eucharistic Adoration and Reconciliation.

Goal F Continue to Provide a Quality Religious Education Program for the Parish and the SJPII Catholic School.

1. Continue to provide a quality multi-cultural Religious Education program serving the needs of the entire parish and school. Giving students in grades K-12 grade level catechesis which does not focus solely on sacramental preparation but the overall faith development of the student.
2. Continue to offer the class for children with special needs adapted to their learning styles.

PRIORITY – CULTURAL DIVERSITY/HISPANIC MINISTRY

Goal A Parish will strive for a more diverse Catholic population in our parish.

1. Parish will continue to support and promote the African Ancestry Ministry.
2. Parish will continue to support and promote the Hispanic Ministry.
3. Continue African Ancestry Ministry and Evangelization, and Knights of Columbus donut socials after Mass to encourage support and socialization for all parishioners.
4. Encourage and invite Hispanic Community to participate in parish events.

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5. Continue the inclusion of Hispanic students in the regular Religious Education program.
6. Will work with Hispanic Youth Minister to have joint events with Young Disciples.
7. Maintain a part-time paid staff position to work more closely with the Hispanic community.

Goal B Parish will assist SJPII Catholic School in identifying, recruiting and supporting diversity.

1. Work with the various ministries to include, African Ancestry Ministry and San Juan Diego Mission, to increase the diversity within the SJPII student population.
2. Provide multicultural academic lessons within the curriculum at SJPII School in an effort to ultimately host an International Celebration for the school and church community.

<p><i>PRIORITY– PROMOTE VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD AND CONSECRATED LIFE.</i></p>
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Goal A Provide more awareness to vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life throughout the parish.

1. Encourage religious vocations to priesthood and religious life by means of: speakers, ideos, pilgrimages to St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, religious communities, i.e.: Nashville Dominicans, Sisters of Life and participation in Diocesan Quo Vadis group, and various youth conferences.
2. Held a parish mission (2015) with the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal; explore the option of continuing this on annual basis.
3. The Pastor will invite other priests of various orders to speak to the parish at Masses and other events.

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Goal B Encourage the parishioners to support vocations to priesthood and consecrated life.

1. Continue to promote attendance at each First Friday Adoration and at adoration at SJPII (for an increase of vocations) through pulpit announcements, bulletin announcements and campus signage.
2. Students at SJPII School will continue to communicate with seminarians and provide support through various service projects within the parish.
3. Knights of Columbus will continue to support the military chaplain's fund and the seminarians from the Diocese of Raleigh twice a year with expenses.

PRIORITY- IMPLEMENT THE PASTORAL INITIATIVE ON MARRIAGE

Goal A Develop marriage counseling and family support programs to strengthen marriages and help families in need.

1. Make parishioners aware of programs being presented in our deanery and diocese such as Worldwide Marriage Encounter, Retrouvaille, and the Third Option.

Goal B Work with the diocese to provide Marriage Enrichment programs within the parish.

1. Provide a forum to address questions related to the Sacrament of Marriage in today's social environment. Offering a fuller understanding of the Sacrament. The forum would provide pathways for couples married without the benefit of the Sacrament toward reconciling with the church.

PRIORITY – PRACTICE EFFECTIVE STEWARDSHIP OF RESOURCES

Goal A Continue to better define stewardship and seek the offering of time, talent, and treasures.

Goal B Maintain School Improvement Team to monitor resources at SPJII.

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Goal C **Continue active campaign to raise funds for the Tru-Legacy Center and then conduct forward planning for the permanent school building.**

PRIORITY – PLAN FOR EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT OF GROWTH

Goal A **Complete construction of Tru-Legacy Center on the SJPII campus.**

Goal B **Address the spiritual and educational needs of all new families (including the consistent influx of transitioning military) and families with children with special needs.**

1. Maintain a parish welcoming committee and implement ongoing welcoming events.
2. Develop programs and educational supports at SJPII for children in conjunction with the Diocesan Committee on Special Needs.
3. By means of the Military Child Education Coalition, training will be offered to catechists and teachers in order to provide assistance to children of the military.

Goal C **Continue to develop and expand parish social media outreach (email, online, directories, newspaper, and web options) to enhance and support parish faith and fellowship.**

1. Continue current maintenance of the web site to include various activities around the Parish, the live streaming of Mass, and Flock Note emails.

Goal D **Develop a Master Plan (30 yrs. out) for the development of the Parish's existing Real Estate.**