

LOVE GOD. LIVE THE SACRAMENTS. BUILD HIS KINGDOM.

The St. Paul Catholic Church Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) would like your input on how we can better live out our new parish mission statement: *Love God, Live the Sacraments and Build His Kingdom.*

At Masses on the weekend of November 23/24, the PPC is asking parishioners to read the Mission Statement and the description of the themes below.

You will be asked to rank your top three (3) themes; 1 indicates the theme you think that is most important to focus on, 2 is the next most important, etc. The ranking of these themes will guide the PPC in our priorities for 2020, and plans beyond that, as we move forward in living our mission statement.

THE MISSION & THEMES

LOVE GOD

- Eucharistic Celebration
- With God
- Stewardship

LIVE THE SACRAMENTS

- Sacramental Preparation
- Vocation
- Liturgy

BUILD HIS KINGDOM

- School
- Visibility
- Hospitality
- Liturgy for Children

THEMES EXPLAINED FURTHER

LOVE GOD

- Eucharistic Celebrations** are celebrated with reverence where parishioners are fully engaged and participate in worshipping our God. Parishioners arrive punctually and stay until after the recessional hymn.
- With God** means parishioners spend more time with God in Adoration and/or attend retreats or Bible Study programs. This also means an increase in the number of parishioners participating in the Sacraments, like Confession or even Daily Mass.
- Stewardship** refers to the three 'Ts': *Time* (increase in people volunteering for events, activities, and ministries), *Talent* (increase in parishioners sharing their talents and gifts with the wider parish community to support the parish) and *Treasure* (a discernment on how parishioners can share their blessings and be generous in supporting the financial needs of parish operations).

LIVE THE SACRAMENTS

- Sacramental Preparations** looks to have more people involved in supporting this important ministry of teaching and handing on our faith. Emphasize how to make this celebration more memorable to the children such as framed photo, certificates, or parish gifts, such as Bible, to help mark this milestone.

- B. **Vocation** means nurturing an environment that will help young people in their discernment of vocation, be it to the married or single life, or ordained/consecrated life as a priest, or religious brother or sister. Look for ways to share these vocations, be it through exposure to different spiritual movements, vocation fairs, or more of an integration of religious life into parish families. Catholic marriages are supported through parish-led marriage retreats, Natural Family Planning programs, openness to the gift of children, or Theology of the Body programs.
- C. **Liturgy** means educating or improving parishioners' knowledge of church obligations regarding the Sacraments (for example the minimum prescribed frequency), celebrating significant Church feast and Saint days, and improving parishioner experience when attending celebrations; such as liturgical music variety to enhance and promote a more joyful and prayerful participation, consistency in liturgical celebrations, appropriate altar decorations and/or Church artwork, etc.

BUILD HIS KINGDOM

- A. **Schools** are key to sharing the Catholic faith through children, providing the opportunity for parish life to enter into family life. This requires a strong unity between our Catholic schools and our parish, where schools promote or supplement the parish sacramental programs. High school students witness their faith profoundly to the community or those visiting their school.
- B. **Visibility** outside of our parish building is key to spark interest from non-parishioners. Consider expanding the outdoor Way of the Cross or creating other events that can be celebrated outdoors - such as Corpus Christi and/or Marian Mother's Day procession. Consider more multi-cultural parish events. Also consider revamping and improving our parish website..
- C. **Hospitality** will aim to create a welcoming and friendly environment to help support parish attendance. This includes increasing visibility and roles of hospitality ministry, identifying new parishioners to make them feel welcome, ensuring hall is always open to promote unity with the main church, and creating social opportunities outside of or after Mass. Also, consider improvements on current facility to promote better hospitality such as baby change facility in the men's washroom, or redesign of the entrance hall.
- D. **Liturgy for the Children** plays an important role in making children feel part of our parish, gives young people a foundation in our faith, and helps to develop their relationship with God. This also helps encourage the entire family to attend Sunday Mass and participate more fully in our parish community and grow in faith.