

About the Pastoral Plan

The inspiration underlying our Pastoral Plan...

Our Pilgrim Plan to the Holy is based
on the words spoken originally
in Latin at the end of every Mass:

"Ite, Missa est"

which are commonly taken to mean . . .

"Go, you are sent forth."

"Holy Mass (Missa), the liturgy in which the mystery of salvation is accomplished, concludes with the **sending forth** (missio) of the faithful, **so that they may fulfill God's will in their daily lives.**"

Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 1332

These words of inspiration take particular meaning in our call, commitment, and vocation to witness with love as lay people "sent forth into the world" to embrace the seven themes of Catholic Social Teaching

*Sacredness of life and dignity
of the human person*

*Call to family, community, and
participation in society, seeking
together the common good*

*Human rights and the
responsibility to protect them*

*Preferential option for the
poor and vulnerable*

*The dignity of work and
the rights of workers*

*Solidarity with all people
as one global family*

PARISH

MISSION STATEMENT TO WITNESS WITH LOVE

Rooted in the spiritual tradition of the Catholic faith and called to be disciples of Jesus Christ, we the people of Our Mother of Sorrows Parish are sent forth to proclaim the Good News of God's love for all people.

A dynamic faith community, we are sent forth to grow in our faith and to share our faith and love with one another.

We encourage one another in prayer, in worship, in continuing to learn and to live daily the meaning of the Christian life.

As disciples of Jesus we are called and sent forth to love and to care for one another.

As a parish we accept our call to reach out to all God's people, especially to those in need, so that the reign of God may be realized in our community, in our nation and in our world.

Pastor's Message

Dear Parishioners . . . Disciples of Jesus Christ,

The Parish Mission Statement *To Witness with Love* embodies our vision and Mission as a parish, as a community of disciples of Jesus Christ. The acronym **M.C.S.** (Message, Community, Service) offers another perspective on our vision and purpose. Our call as a parish is to proclaim the Gospel... Message of Jesus Christ, which forms us into a unique Community of disciples and sends us forth on mission and loving Service.

The Pastoral Plan outlined in this brochure under the theme *Go, you are sent forth* puts legs on our Parish Mission Statement and on our acronym M.C.S. May the implementation of this plan in all levels of our parish and school bond us together more deeply in Jesus Christ who continues to serve in and through us and sends us forth in his name to witness with love.

Your fellow disciple and pastor,
Msgr. Tom Cahalane

Our Mother of Sorrows Parish Pastoral Plan 2010-2014



GO, YOU ARE SENT FORTH
...AS DISCIPLES...AS STEWARDS
TO WITNESS WITH LOVE...

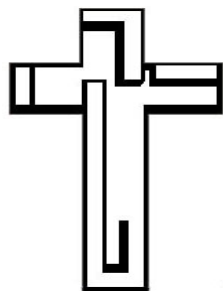
- to worship & welcome 2010/11
- to reach out to the least 2011/12
- to seek & embrace 2012/13
- to learn & grow 2013/14

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Introduction

Emphasis on the Bible & Holistic Stewardship

An intentional emphasis on the Bible as the Word of God which is “living and active, sharper than a two-edged sword” (Heb 4:12) and Holistic stewardship, meaning everything we have is gift, will be promoted to all parishioners by pastoral staff, school faculty, Parish Council, Commissions and committees in all phases of the implementation of the pastoral plan.



To Worship & Welcome

2010-2011

We envision a reverent and welcoming Eucharistic community in our common baptism and call to holiness, aware of its role as a priestly people in relationship with God and with one another, and actively involved in liturgical and sacramental celebrations as Ministers of the Assembly.

- † Through the Eucharistic celebration and its ‘sending forth,’ those who worship here are called to live the liturgy as the source and summit of the life of the Church.
- † Each person and family who enters the church for liturgy are to be respected as full, conscious, active participants, essential to the Eucharistic celebration.
- † A spirit of welcome and hospitality is extended to and by all who participate in the liturgy.
- † All liturgical ministers are afforded opportunities through formation, workshops and other venues to deepen their understanding and participation in the roles to which they have been called.
- † Inspiring, challenging, and thought-provoking homilies are a crucial source of ongoing faith formation through the liturgy.

To Reach Out to the Least

2011-2012

We envision a parish in which the Gospel message, through our baptismal call to holiness, empowers us to love and care for those in need. This transformation will be evident in the everyday lives of our parishioners and parish community. Our responsibility toward the poor, marginalized and vulnerable will continue to be realized through our outreach and generosity of heart.

- † Our parish strongly supports and emphasizes outreach, especially to the ‘least, the last and the lost.’ Catholic Social Teaching challenges us to demonstrate a social responsibility for the welfare and well being of our less fortunate brothers and sisters.
- † This outreach takes place both within and beyond the parish, especially in the Ministry of Everyday Life through every person’s baptismal call.
- † As we strive through prayer, study and efforts to achieve social change, our actions will reflect clearly our faith and our commitment to the social teachings of the Church.
- † Leadership formation and development provide for continuation and growth in these programs.
- † Ministries report to the community at large in collaboration with the Parish Ministries Council.
- † All ministers receive ongoing catechesis on the need to see the face of Christ in all who are served.

To Seek & Embrace

2012-2013

We envision our parish as an authentic welcoming community: a place where the overlooked and the stranger are invited, embraced and accepted as children of God, and where individuals and families grow together through love, understanding, prayer, hospitality and festivity.

- † As welcoming is part of our everyday spirituality, we desire to be in relationship with God and with all our brothers and sisters.
- † A special concern is directed towards seeking out those who are overlooked.
- † In recognition of the reality that our lives are connected in many ways, the family of Our Mother of Sorrows places great emphasis on being a compassionate community whose members embrace diversity and encircle all who come to us with love

To Learn & Grow

2013-2014

We envision lifelong learning and growth in our faith through our call to holiness. This learning is rooted in a rich prayer life, the Scriptures, the Sacraments, and Church tradition and documents. From this flows an awareness of our common vocation to evangelize the world through the Ministry of Everyday Life.

- † We recognize families as the domestic Church through teaching and supporting parents as the primary faith-formers of their children.
- † We encourage faith formation that occurs within the liturgy, our families, our school & religious education programs, and through other means of study.
- † Our faith is nurtured through our families and through constant attentiveness to prayer.
- † Multiple opportunities for study and reflection on Scripture and Church documents are offered so that lay people are formed as ‘co-workers in the vineyard’.
- † Small faith formation and Lectio Divina groups break open the Scripture and Church documents for study and reflection.
- † Retreats offer special opportunities for prayer, reflection, renewal, mentoring and spiritual formation for present and future lay leaders.
- † Future leaders in all areas of ministry are identified, discerned, and formed to assure continued effective programs. Ongoing formation of future leaders is emphasized and invigorated through the OMOS school, religious education programs, and parish teen and young adult ministry programs.



Conclusion

In conclusion we envision a strong and collaborative parish leadership which grows through our common call to holiness through ministry formation, education, prayer, passion, love and example. We also recognize and support all those who lead lives of faith, integrity and Gospel values beyond the parish boundaries in the Ministry of Everyday Life.