



# **St. Andrew the Apostle**

Pastoral Plan 2016

## **I. Parish Mission Statement**

Saint Andrew the Apostle Roman Catholic parish is a people called by Baptism in which God's presence is experienced, shared and celebrated. Empowered and enabled by the Spirit, we seek to transmit our Christian heritage, to help those in need, and to be an accepting, loving community for all people. Thus, we commit ourselves to faithful witness to the Gospel of Christ.

## **II. Pastor's Vision Statement**

Saint Andrew's will continue and build upon our tradition of being a welcoming parish, with a spirit of hospitality in the Franciscan tradition of the Friars of the Atonement. We will continue to make a priority our outreach to the poor and those community agencies that need our support in ministering to those in need.

Saint Andrew's will warmly welcome those who come to worship and we will provide for their spiritual needs as well as providing an atmosphere that will encourage outreach and ministry, fostering a positive environment for worship and community. We will encourage our parishioners to continue their generosity in time, talent and treasure to support the goals and activities of the parish, the Raleigh Diocese and the worldwide Catholic community.

## **III. Financial Environment of the Parish**

St. Andrew's is financially stable due in a large part to a fiscally conservative approach to finances by the Pastor and Finance Committee. The Parish has an active and responsible Finance Committee with skilled, attentive members. Parish leadership has an attitude that we will address those things we can do well, and not attempt the things to which we cannot fully commit.

St. Andrew's parishioners have always provided generous financial support for the Parish. Despite a challenging economic environment, the parish community provides the support to meet our financial obligations to the Diocese and address parish expenses as well as capital improvements to the parish campus. Parishioners continue to support Diocese initiatives while still providing generous donations to a wide variety of social action ministries including WIHN, WWCM and Brown Bag.

## **IV. Priorities and Goals**

### **Promote the Life and Dignity of the Human Person**

1) Our parish will use all available resources to communicate the social mission of the Church as well as provide resources for parish formation on social action:

- Parish sponsored missions, roundtables, speakers
- Parish social media and parental communications

2) Our parish will increase our reach to better communicate Catholic moral teachings, the Church position on social action, and pro-life topics to our high school/young adult parishioners as well as our young adults away at college:

- Leverage existing ministries such as TYM and Catholic Campus Connections
- Increase use of social media to reach target groups
- Use Catholic Moral Teaching principles in youth faith formation
- Promote “Leading & Loving: Family Honor” sessions

3) Our parish will provide adequate direction for our social action ministries and ensure coordination of efforts and activities between those ministries:

- Provide a cross-ministry list of ministry resources (people, materials, resources)
- Establish a method to e-mail all ministry leads

4) Increase communication about and participation from our ministries in all areas of the social mission of the Church including: anti-capital punishment, prison ministry, bioethics and immigration reform/education.

5) Promote the pastoral care resources available in the parish, neighboring parishes, the Diocese, and wider community:

- Provide a listing on social media of services available at St. Andrew's

6) Our parish will establish a parish liaison to coordinate with the diocese to provide assistance during disasters

### **Focus on Faith Formation and Sacramental Practice**

1) Our parish will enhance our worship and prayer:

- Provide education on church etiquette to improve the spiritual environment for parishioners in the chapel and church

2) Our parish will enhance and promote the Adult Faith Formation programs available to our parishioners:

- Promote GRACE events as a way to expand parent faith formation
- Increase support and promotion of parish-sponsored Disciples in Mission groups / small faith sharing groups
- Our parish will increase the participation of parishioners in our Adult Faith Formation programs
- Hold ministry fairs to attract adults and increase participation in parish ministries

3) Our parish will continually evaluate and enhance our faith formation programs:

- Cultivate cultural diversity
- Address special needs

4) Our parish will continually evaluate and enhance our catechist preparation:

- Leverage master catechists to improve the skills of other catechists

- Support participation in the Catholic Morale Teachings course and spread those teachings to adults and catechists in the parish
- Provide parish events to enhance catechist preparation (speakers on catechist techniques and formation)

5) Our parish will strengthen our Catholic faith by promoting a sense of Catholic community:

- Use parish social media and other means to announce Catholic community events such as weddings, births, etc. (monthly bulletin board of parish community events)
- Increase opportunities for 18-29 year old parishioners to participate in social and parish activities

## Promote Cultural Diversity

1) Our parish will encourage reaching out to our diverse community to include them in our worship, events and celebrations

- Utilize social media to communicate with both parishioners and the wider community
- Providing Spanish language options where appropriate (tax preparation services for low income families, etc)
- Provide a Spanish language link on the parish website to direct Spanish speaking readers to the Diocesan Hispanic resources page
- Provide culturally diverse activities to attract a wider, more diverse community

2) Promote cultural diversity by using parish conduits to inform our community of culturally diverse events happening at the Diocese and in other parishes in our community

- Provide pointers to schedules for alternative language/culture masses held in the community (Spanish, Korean, African American)
- Include pointers in the parish website to multi-cultural resources and activities in the Diocese

## Promote Vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated Life

1) Our parish will increase awareness among our parishioners of religious life as a vocation as well as educate youth on religious life:

- Invite religious to speak at youth and adult faith formation classes (emphasis on younger religious that youth might be able to relate with)
- Communicate with specific seminarians (e-mail, cards, visits)

2) Our parish will increase distribution of vocation information and opportunities using parish media:

- Provide vocation information for parents and families with potential candidates

3) Our parish will promote vocation success stories, in particular people from within the parish and diocese:

- Find and publish vocation success stories using all parish social media
- Promote ways for the community to interact with religious
- Add link for religious vocations to social media sites (website, Facebook)

## Implement the Pastoral Initiative on Marriage and Support of Family Life

1) Our parish will support and promote initiatives on marriage, domestic church, Catholic family events, and Catholic teachings on human sexuality and chastity through our parish social media:

- Support those couples who are about to get married and facilitate their participation in marriage prep workshops offered through the Diocese
- Promote the “Third Option” ministry and meetings

- Increase 1-5 year married couples (with emphasis on young married couples) participation in marriage preparation workshops
- Promote marriage support activities in the parish and broader community
- Investigate starting a family and marriage support ministry for 18-30 year olds

## **Practice the Effective Stewardship of Resources**

- 1) Our parish will look to share our facilities as appropriate with both our parish and the wider community:
  - We will use parish resources to assist the unemployed and under-employed of the parish find employment
- 2) Our parish will continue to use more efficient methods of communicating with parishioners by utilizing electronic media and other communication options
- 3) Our parish will work to increase the percentage of parishioners that donate:
  - We will work to increase parishioner participation in on-line giving

## **Plan for the Effective Management of Growth**

- 1) Our parish will use effective, efficient methods of communication to reach our larger population:
  - Efficient use of traditional mass media methods
  - Use social media to reach out to new parishioners (new parishioner events, greetings, social media contacts)
  - Encourage parishioner sign-up for e-mail communication
- 2) Our parish will encourage new volunteers to handle the increase in demand for parish services provided by the parish staff and ministries:
  - Continue to hold a ministry fair to publicize existing ministries and provide opportunities for volunteer recruitment
  - Actively recruit young adults (18-30 years) to increase participation of young adults in parish ministries
- 3) Communicate and where necessary, adapt, parish plans for crisis management to parish ministries