

Next Steps

The success of this Strategic Plan depends on maintaining working relationships between the pastor, the Parish Council and its commissions, the school, and staff. But the heart of this plan is to invite parishioners into a deeper and broader involvement in parish leadership and ministries. This plan can only be accomplished when more of our parishioners choose to become deeply involved in the life and ministries of our parish.

You can expect:

- ✦ Periodic updates from the Pastor & Parish Council on the status of implementation of this plan.
- ✦ An annual report on progress and revisions to the plan
- ✦ Parish Forum (Fall & Spring) for communication and dialoged,
- ✦ A challenge for you to discern how you will contribute to the success of this plan.



*St. Margaret of
Scotland,
Pray for Us!*

St. Margaret of Scotland Parish Strategic Plan

2006-2010



Letter from the Pastor

St. Paul speaks beautifully in 1 Cor. 12 of the church as the body of Christ, and Catholic theology has always seen a parish as a cell of the body—independent, fully functioning, while relating to the whole. This document (especially in its full form) shows the strength of this cell of Christ's body. Internal life is addressed as much as external responsibilities; the functioning of the cell to represent the whole of Christ's life, and interrelationship with other cells and the whole body.

The Plan shows remarkable leadership within the parish, and deep resources of talent and dedication among a large number of members.

Thanks go to Fr. Ken Brown and Fr. Ron Chocol, pastors who started and nurtured this work; to Tom Purcell and Patty Hendrickson, who chaired the Committee and oversaw every step of the process; and to all committee heads and members, and all who responded to requests for input.

This Parish Strategic Plan is now promulgated, but it can't be truly finished. It is a living document, which will be used to guide our growth; new goals and objectives will emerge as we make progress. It is, after all, the growth plan of a very lively living entity,

St. Margaret of Scotland Parish.

Promulgated for use

March 19, Feast of St. Joseph the Worker, 2006

Rev. Thomas W. Wyrsh, Pastor

Focus Point Five

Administration and Communication

- Goal 1: Organize the parish leadership in an effective and efficient organizational structure.
- Goal 2: Develop a cadre of qualified lay leaders.
- Goal 3: Ensure effective implementation of the Parish Strategic Plan.
- Goal 4: Promote stewardship as a way of life.
- Goal 5: Make our parish facilities, accessible, flexible and well maintained.
- Goal 6 : Generate the necessary financial support to fulfill our mission.
- Goal 7: Strengthen the relationship between the pastor, parish leadership, parishioners, school community, and others through communication and dialog.
- Goal 8: Expand the role of the Internet in the Parish.
- Goal 9: Develop and maintain relationship with key groups external to the parish.

Focus Point Two

Educating children and adults to live a full Christian life in today's world.

- Goal 1: Engage in a long-range planning process for the School.
- Goal 2: Develop and maintain relationships between school and key external groups.
- Goal 3: Provide seamless opportunities for lifelong growth in love and faith through learning, worship and service.

Focus Point Three

Serving others with unconditional generosity.

- Goal : Continue and grow our service ministries. This includes the poor and our seniors in our territory.

Focus Point Four

Living just lives and working for a more just society.

- Goal : Recognize advocacy and outreach as necessary and essential means of expressing or living our faith.

Our Plan:

This Strategic Plan, the culmination of 12 months of study and work by our pastors, staff, parish leadership and parishioners. We started with the belief that St. Margaret of Scotland Parish is a wonderful, welcoming community that provides rich worship experiences, has an excellent elementary school and many opportunities for spiritual growth and service. But when we talked about what St. Margaret's could be in the future, we imagined even more. With so many potential directions to pursue and so much work to do we realized we needed a roadmap to follow over the next five years to help us reach for our vision.

This summary includes our mission, our values, focus points and goals of the plan. A expanded summary is available on our website at www.stmargaretstl.org or by contacting the rectory.

Our Mission:

St. Margaret of Scotland Church is a diverse urban Catholic parish. Inspired by the Holy Spirit and the example of our patroness, we are called to be a vibrant voice and beacon of the Catholic faith in our neighborhoods..

We proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ in word and action by

- ✦ *Praying and celebrating as a Eucharistic community,*
- ✦ *Educating children and adults to live a full Christian life in today's world,*
- ✦ *Serving others with unconditional generosity, and*
- ✦ *Living just lives and working for a more just society.*

Our Values:

At Saint Margaret's the values important to us as we try to live out our mission are:

- ✦ *FAITH – We are a community that is committed to Christ and our love for God and others.*
- ✦ *WITNESSING and EVANGELIZING – We are a community that lives by the Gospel values of sharing faith, teaching, learning, conversion and transformation.*
- ✦ *COMMUNITY – We are a Eucharistic community that is welcoming, accepting, and rooted in the sacraments.*
- ✦ *BAPTISMAL CALL – We are a community that responds to its baptismal call to ministry and service.*
- ✦ *LITURGIES – We are a community that joyfully celebrates God's presence among us in liturgical worship enhanced with outstanding preaching, music and communal prayer.*
- ✦ *INCLUSIVE – We are a community that welcomes all with an invitation to 'come as you are'.*
- ✦ *DIVERSITY – We are a community that embraces the diversity of all of God's people.*
- ✦ *LOVE – We are a community that is respectful, caring, forgiving and reconciling.*
- ✦ *STEWARDSHIP – We are a community that gives of our time, talent and treasure as a way of life, especially serving those in need.*
- ✦ *FORMATION – We are a community of life-long learners committed to education and formation, from childhood through adulthood.*
- ✦ *SERVICE – We are a community that serves the spiritual, human and social needs of the poor and others.*
- ✦ *JUSTICE - We are a community that accepts the responsibility for creating a culture of justice and rights for all.*

Focus Points of the Plan

The Strategic Plan addresses the four focus points of our Mission Statement as well as a fifth area, Administration & Communication, which supports and coordinates the four focus points.

This summary is the high level overview. Each identified goal has 3-10 objectives identified to achieve the goal. Each objective has multiple actions steps identified to achieve the objective. The full version of this plan is posted on our website.

Focus Point One

Praying and Celebrating as a Eucharistic Community

Goal 1: Intentionally spread the news that St. Margaret's is a place to grow nearer to God, share the Gospel, and enjoy close fellowship.

Goal 2: Bring people together through social activities to build relationship and enhance community.

Goal 3: Make celebration of the Eucharist our central focus.

Goal 4: Spread the Gospel.

Goal 5: Engage and attract youth and young adults to the life and leadership of the parish.