

*St. Patrick*

*St. Anthony Parish*

*Vision 2025*

*Pastoral Plan*



*Parish Mission*



*We are a welcoming  
Catholic community, alive in Christ,  
making present the Kingdom of God.*

*"The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light,  
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death*

*light has dawned."* Matthew 4:16



## *Creating the Vision for Our Pastoral Plan*

*Beginning in 2019, The St. Patrick-St. Anthony Pastoral Council, responding to the prodding of the Holy Spirit, initiated a process to develop a pastoral plan for our parish faith community. At that time, pastoral council members, parish staff, and members of St. Patrick-St. Anthony engaged in an intentional process of prayer, reflection and discussion to identify ways that we*

*can make present the Kingdom of God to all members of our faith community and the greater community of Grand Haven.*

*The common observation was that we now have completed a beautiful building and renovation of our worship space, but now what? How do we fulfill the Great Commission? "Go forth and make disciples, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." The pastoral plan is a call for our parish to continually live in the presence of Jesus Christ and endeavor to imitate him in all things. It is a call to approach discipleship intentionally. It focuses us to transform our parish, our city of Grand Haven and the world to reflect the image and love of God. We seek to make present the Kingdom of God. To this end we submit this vision and pastoral plan to help guide us in our discipleship through 2025 and beyond.*



## *Our Mission*



***Parish Vision: To inspire every heart to **KNOW, LOVE and SERVE** Jesus Christ.***

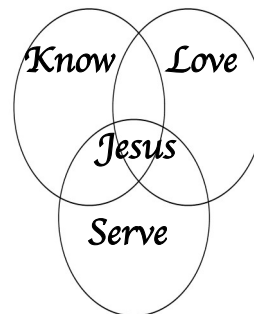
*He said to them, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the greatest commandment. And a second is like it: "you shall love you neighbor as yourself." Matthew 22:37-39*

*The vision for the pastoral plan, "To **Know, Love and Serve** Jesus Christ," is the impetus upon which the pastoral plan's goals are founded. Simply put, this vision recognizes the need for St. Patrick-St. Anthony to be a parish that purposefully accepts the holy mission to make present the kingdom of God and go and make disciples! Our faith community needs encounters that lead to true transformation.*

*Our faith community needs spiritual growth and development. Our parish faith community is needed in the city of Grand Haven as a servant in ministry and mission.*

*The vision reflects the three central aspects of intentional discipleship*

- ***The Liturgy and Sacraments** - Our faithful worship and sacramental life*
- ***Faith Formation** - Our responsibility to develop the faith of our parishioners and become missional disciples*
- ***Evangelization** - Our call to spread the Gospel*



## Goals:

*When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs."<sup>1</sup> A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep." John 21:15-17*

*In keeping these three aspects of intentional discipleship close to our heart, we have put forth these three goals to guide our efforts.*

- We will strive to inspire every heart to **know** Jesus Christ. St. Patrick - St. Anthony parish will cultivate meaningful, lasting faith formation and prayer opportunities through all seasons of life.*
- We will strive to inspire every heart to **love** Jesus Christ. St. Patrick-St. Anthony parish will place great effort and importance on offering meaningful, spirit filled liturgies and worship experiences that will help foster our spiritual growth and relationship with Jesus Christ. We recognize that the Eucharist is the source and summit of our prayer and worship. In the Eucharist we find our identity, strength and refuge.*
- We will strive to inspire every heart to **serve** Jesus Christ. We will serve our Lord through servant leadership in our ongoing efforts to evangelize, advocate for, and provide outreach services to our parish and community. We will continue to seek ways to encourage and host parish social events and faith related gatherings that build community and benefit all parishioners.*

*Parish Vision*





## *Current Opportunities and Challenges*

*When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Acts 2:1-4*



*The planning process, led by the parish council, included many meetings blessed with prayer, discussion and discernment. A broad array of the faithful within the parish contributed to the development of this plan through numerous listening sessions that were open to all parishioners. Input was gathered and considered through conversations with staff, ministry leaders, and an in-depth parish survey. The direction, content and ideas contained in this pastoral plan are the result of months of planning and hard work on the part of many people.*

*We consistently heard how important, needed and loved our faith community of St. Patrick-St. Anthony is, and that we have a talented and enthusiastic staff and congregation. Many people are grateful for the many opportunities they have had to participate in a vibrant parish life, missional activities and faith formation opportunities.*

*We also heard that there are needs and challenges that we are called to respond to in innovative and inspiring ways. Accordingly, this plan pays special attention to:*

- *How we attend to the realities of families today with diverse life experiences and mounting challenges*
- *Addressing the tough questions and current issues facing Catholics and a secular society and how to apply our Catholic faith to respond to them*



- *Inspiring every heart to **know, love and serve** Jesus Christ and grow in a deep and abiding relationship with him*
- *Cultivating meaningful and lasting faith formation for all parishioners from cradle to grave, paying special attention to forming our children and youth*
- *How we build community and invite all to discipleship, communion and fellowship*
- *Helping those in need, especially the poor, the disenfranchised, the hungry and those hurting emotionally and spiritually*
- *Providing meaningful, uplifting, reverent and prayerful liturgies where all are welcome and all leave changed with the presence of Christ*

*The pastoral plan addresses these challenges through a variety of goals that address the following areas of parish life: liturgy and sacraments, faith formation, evangelization and missional outreach.*

## *Opportunities and Challenges*



## ***GOAL 1. INSPIRING LITURGY AND MEANINGFUL SACRAMENTAL PARTICIPATION***

*While they were eating, Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and giving it to his disciples said, "Take and eat; this is my body." Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed on behalf of many for the forgiveness of sins." Matthew 26:26-28*

*St. Patrick-St. Anthony Parish already stands apart when it comes to our Eucharistic celebrations. Talented staff, liturgical and music ministers, and our pastors, current and past, have helped establish a reputation for our parish throughout the diocese for reverence and beauty in the Mass. Worship is integral to our lives as Christians. When we engage in the prayer and ritual of the Church, we are formed as Church. As the Catechism teaches: It is the mystery of Christ that the church proclaims and celebrates in her liturgy so that the faithful may learn from it and bear witness to it in the world: for it is in the liturgy, especially in the divine sacrifice of the Eucharist, that "the work of our redemption is accomplished." And it is through the liturgy especially that the faithful are enabled to express in their lives and manifest to others the mystery of Christ and the real nature of the true Church. CCC 1068.*



*We are grateful for the time, effort, and gifts that our music and liturgical ministers share with us each and every time that we gather in worship. We must continue these efforts and always strive for excellence in all aspects of sacramental life.*

- ***Objective 1.1.1:*** *Promote and encourage full, active, conscious participation in the Mass and liturgical events*
- ***Objective 1.1.2:*** *Provide meaningful, inspirational and prayerful Masses and liturgies*
- ***Objective 1.1.3:*** *Deliver relevant, thoughtful, and reasoned homilies that educate and inspire the congregants*

### ***Desired Outcome:***

*Mass celebrations that are true to our Catholic faith and traditions that feed and form our faith community*



## *Initiative: The Sacraments.*

*The Latin word sacramentum means “a sign of the sacred.” For Catholics, sacraments are the ways and means that we enter in to an intimate and deep relationship with God. They point to what is sacred, significant, and important to us. They are special occasions for experiencing God’s saving presence. That is what theologians mean when they say that sacraments are simultaneously signs and instruments of God’s grace. As such, we must attract, engage, and inspire people to deepen their participation in the sacramental life of the Church—especially Baptism, the Eucharist, Reconciliation, Confirmation, and Marriage—resulting in stronger Christian witnesses.*

- **Objective 1.2.1:** *Consciously, reverently and purposefully celebrate all the sacraments*
- **Objective 1.2.2:** *Develop a holy culture that honors and encourages all aspects of sacramental life*

### ***Desired Outcomes:***

- 1. Full, effective, fruitful, and conscious participation in the liturgy and the sacraments*
- 2. More baptisms, confirmations, and marriages at St. Patrick-St. Anthony*
- 3. Greater participation in the sacrament of reconciliation*
- 4. Celebration when members of our community participate in holy orders*
- 5. Spiritually inspiring and uplifting worship during the liturgy*

## *Liturgy and Worship*





## ***GOAL 2: IMPLEMENT CRADLE TO GRAVE FAITH FORMATION***

*He said to them, "Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature."*

*Mark 16:15*

*The parish is the Eucharistic community and the heart of the liturgical life of Christian families; it is a privileged place for the catechesis of children and parents. CCC 2226 .*

*Our conversations with the community confirmed what we were already learning from participation in faith formation activities such as "Our Sacred Journey" book clubs, senior bible study, men's and women's bible study, Life Teen, Edge, Rock, children's faith formation, and many other large and small formation opportunities. We are hungry for deep and rich spiritual development in all stages of life. We also heard that the spiritual development of our youth is of critical importance—not only for their spiritual wellness, but for the wellness of the future Church. Accordingly, this plan establishes faith formation initiatives related to lay leadership, youth, children and adults that lead to transformation, and community building in the Parish.*

### ***Initiative 1: Lay Leadership.***

*The future of our faith and Church depends, in large part, on the servant leadership we are developing today. We must prepare mothers, fathers, and grandparents emotionally, intellectually, and spiritually, to confidently minister to their children. We must call forth people of all ages to fulfill their baptismal call to be priest, prophet and king, and to be leaders in our community and beyond.*

- ***Objective 2.1.1:*** *Provide comprehensive spiritual formation, and servant leadership formation opportunities*

#### ***Desired Outcomes:***

1. *Increased participation in faith formation at all age levels*
2. *Formation for parishioners and future leaders in liturgical and faith formation ministries*
3. *Increased participation in bible studies and adult catechesis*
4. *Empowerment of community members to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in the world today*

## ***Initiative 2: Children, Youth, and Young Adults.***

*The future of the Catholic Church also depends, in large part, on the young disciples that we are entrusted to mentor today. We must take every opportunity to inspire every heart to **know** Jesus Christ. We must continue cultivating evangelization while looking to introduce effective and innovative ways of engaging our children, youth, and young adults in this ever changing world around us,*

- ***Objective 2.2.1:** Create dynamic and vibrant children, youth, and young adult programs utilizing innovative, in person formation models while taking advantage of safe and effective electronic and social media*
- ***Objective 2.2.2:** Continue to develop and provide alternative catechetical programs, such as Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, in an effort to expand and enrich our current offerings*
- ***Objective 2.2.3** Draw young people to responsible participation in the life, mission, and work of the Catholic faith community*

### ***Desired Outcomes:***

- 1. Increased participation in religious education, sacramental preparation, youth and young adult ministries*
- 2. Increased participation of the young members of our parish in liturgy, leadership and outreach ministries*

## ***Initiative 3: Encounters that Lead to Transformation.***

*We must seek additional spiritual formation opportunities that support those who are actively seeking spiritual renewal and growth. These activities should be in areas of prayer, inspiration, and spiritual renewal. Such God encounters lead us to a deeper **love** for our heavenly Father and inspire us to more closely desire a relationship with Christ.*

- ***Objective 2.3.1:** Host parish retreats and conferences that focus on prayer, spiritual well-being and living faith*
- ***Objective 2.3.2:** Promote and offer local and diocesan retreats/conferences for parishioners*

### ***Desired Outcome:***

*More parishioners engaged in encounters that promote discipleship, community and lead to transformation.*

***Faith Formation***



## **GOAL 3: CREATE A CULTURE WHERE EVANGELIZATION IS SECOND NATURE**

*Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men." And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him. Luke 5:10-11*

*Evangelization is the bringing of the Good News of Jesus into every human situation and the effort to convert individuals and society by the divine power of the Gospel. We are inspired to this action because of our **love** for God and his Divine Son, Jesus Christ. It need not be conducted by experts, but only by sincere witnesses, because at its essence, evangelization is the proclamation of salvation in Jesus Christ and the response of a person in faith, which are both works of the Spirit of God. As the Catechism states:*

*It is from God's love for all men that the Church in every age receives both the obligation and the vigor of her missionary dynamism, "for the love of Christ urges us on. Indeed, God desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth." That is, God wills the salvation of everyone through the knowledge of the truth. Salvation is found in the truth. Those who obey the prompting of the Spirit of truth are already on the way of salvation. But the Church, to whom this truth has been entrusted, must go out to meet their desire, so as to bring them the truth. Because she believes in God's universal plan of salvation, the Church must be missionary. CCC 851*



*Throughout the development process for this plan we heard many inspiring stories from parishioners who recounted their own experiences of conversion, faith, fulfillment and spiritual development at St. Patrick-St. Anthony. We also heard that our world needs communities of believers dedicated to spreading and **serving** the Gospel. This plan formally calls each and every parishioner to consider and participate in evangelization initiatives focusing on welcoming, hospitality, and sharing Christ with others.*



## *Initiative 1: Hospitality.*

*Hospitality is written into our mission statement. "We are a welcoming Catholic community, alive in Christ, making present the kingdom of God." The welcome that people receive upon entering the parish grounds of St. Patrick-St. Anthony, whether it is for Mass, Adoration, catechesis, or even business, says a lot about our faith community. A first impression can make the difference in a person's spiritual formation and openness to our faith. Likewise, **love** and acceptance must continue past initial impressions and be a part of the very fabric of our being. As a family, we must be a welcoming community and always seek to be servant leaders. Like a disciple, we must seek to live what Jesus taught us and intentionally share the peace that arises from the Gospel. We are the face of the Church, the face of Christ in the world. Therefore, we must identify and implement approaches that create a culture of hospitality and kindness.*



- ***Objective 3.1.1:** Attract, engage, and inspire people through our ministry of hospitality and daily interactions*
- ***Objective 3.1.2:** Be Christ to others both at church and in our homes, workplaces and community*

### *Desired Outcomes:*

- 1. Increased participation in Mass attendance, particularly among nuclear families, youth, and Catholics that may not attend often or are inactive*
- 2. An authentic welcoming experience at Sunday Masses through hospitality and welcome*
- 3. Fellowship and social outreach that extends after and beyond Mass and provides opportunities for continued evangelization*



## *Evangelization*





## ***Initiative 2: Pastoral Strategies.***

*Our demographics, our religious education programs, and the communities and neighborhoods that we serve confirm that we are becoming a more diverse parish. Each member of our parish family must be ministered to, must hear the Gospel, and must be encouraged to engage in the life of the parish. Evangelization is not for just those of us who are Catholic, but for everyone in our community, including protestants, agnostics, and atheists. Therefore, we should*

*create pastoral strategies that support and serve all members of the faith community, including the family as the Domestic Church. We desire to be a place of transforming spiritual growth and for forming disciples.*

- ***Objective 3.2.1:** Inspire every heart to **love** Christ. St. Patrick-St. Anthony parish will support our personal relationship with Christ, our connections to one another, our community and the Church at large*
- ***Objective 3.2.2:** Incorporate and/or further develop church ministries that support the life cycle of marriage and family from birth through the end of life*
- ***Objective 3.2.3:** Attract, engage, and inspire young people to deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ and **knowledge** of the teachings of the Church, resulting in stronger participation in parish life and external Christian witness*
- ***Objective 3.2.4:** Create strategies for ministering to our unmarried parishioners*
- ***Objective 3.2.5:** Create opportunities for parishioners to act on a desire to **serve** in parish life and ministry opportunities so they can **know** the deep joy of discipleship*

### ***Desired Outcomes:***

1. *Increased participation in church outreach and ministries that support all people, sinners and saints alike*
2. *Expanded engagement of youth and young adults in parish ministries*

## *Initiative 3: Missional Ministry.*

*What does "missional" mean? In essence being "missional" describes what happens when we replace "come to us" invitations with a "go to them" mindset; a life where we as individuals bring the church to the world. It is outreach. This way of relating to those outside the church requires us to be wholly focused on sacrificially living*

*for God and others, and adopting a missionary stance in relation to our culture. It also calls us as community to ask ourselves questions like: How are we reaching out to our community? To what extent is St. Patrick-St. Anthony impacting the community with a Christian message that challenges the values of our secular society? Are we actively identifying social justice needs in our local community and beyond, and developing ways to address them? To what extent is our parish*


*seeking to prepare our people to effectively care for others in their families, schools, neighborhoods and workplaces here in Grand Haven, MI and around the world? If we are truly seeking to **"Know, Love and Serve,"** we must intentionally reach beyond the confines of our faith community in **service** and discipleship.*

- ***Objective: 3.3.1:** Consistently and constantly identify missional opportunities locally and beyond*
- ***Objective: 3.3.2:** Build upon our existing missional ministries and look for ways to collaborate with other like-minded Christian and community groups in service*
- ***Objective: 3.3.3:** Develop staff and parishioner volunteers through mentoring and formation to plan and lead missional opportunities that **serve** Jesus, our parishioners and our community*
- ***Objective 3.3.4:** Continue and expand parishioner participation to migrant ministry*
- ***Objective 3.3.5:** Heighten parish awareness and financial support of our mission commitment to our sister parish in Haiti*
- ***Objective 3.3.6:** Continue our works of charity such as the food pantry, job seekers, women's shelter and local parish outreach endeavors*

### *Desired Outcome:*

*A culture that lives out missional service and that embraces the vision of **"To Know, Love and Serve."***

## *Missional Ministry*



## *Vision 2025 Prayer:*

*Heavenly Father, we thank you for gathering us together and calling us to serve as your disciples. You have charged us through your Son, Jesus, with the great mission of evangelizing and witnessing your love to the world. Send forth your Holy Spirit to guide us as we discern Your will for our parish. Give us strength, courage and clear vision as we use our gifts to serve You. We entrust our parish family to the care of Mary, our mother, and ask her intercession and guidance as we strive to bear witness to the Gospel and build an amazing parish.*

*Amen*

## *St. Patrick-St. Anthony Parish*

*Pastor: Fr Chuck Schwartz*

### *Pastoral Council 2020:*

*Craig Rozelle*

*Annie Ratke*

*Mark Ventocilla*

*Joe Laethem*

*Becky Bowen*

*Jimmy Beauchamp (Staff Liaison)*

*Keri McCarthy*

*A special thank you to our  
parish council members, staff  
and parishioners who helped  
create and inspire our Vision  
2025 Pastoral Plan.*

