



The Synod Action Plan for: **St. Michael the Archangel, Schererville** July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2021

Our Parish Vision

In implementing the pastoral priorities of the Synod the vision for our parish is that: Every parishioner will have the opportunity to deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church and small groups will be a significant vehicle for faith-sharing and renewal.

More parishioners will embrace ministries of justice and charity within the broader community.

That Parishioners feel emboldened to speak about their relationship with Jesus to all.

That Sundays will find our Church full for each Mass celebrated, to the praise and glory of God.

Our Priorities

Over the next three years, our priest(s), deacons, lay staff and parishioners will focus our efforts on the following three pastoral priorities and associated goals in order to bring fulfill the vision of First Diocesan Synod and foster the New Evangelization in our local church:

Priority 1: Educating and developing small faith sharing groups

Rationale: Lays the ground work for further efforts of evangelization and spiritual renewal.

Priority 2: Evangelization Training

Rationale: Need to give regular parishioners the tools and inspiration to share their faith with others.

Priority 3: Expansion of ministries of justice and charity

Rationale: Create moral awareness of others' needs and our collective responsibility to address those needs beyond our own borders.

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| Priority 1 : Goal 1 | Priority: Educating and developing small faith sharing groups (Discipleship/Formation) Rationale: Lays the ground work for further efforts of evangelization and spiritual renewal. | | |
| SMART Goal: | By fall of 2018, have a core group of 30-40 people to launch the Alpha program. Develop program into small faith sharing groups | | |
| Primary Goal Champion <i>include role and individual</i> | Carol Slager, Coordinator of Alpha Program | | |
| Other Key Persons for this Goal <i>include role and individuals</i> | Synod Implementation Team Pastoral Council | | |
| Key Strategies/Milestones Related to this Goal | | | |
| Key Strategy/Milestone <i>these should include any programs, initiatives, tactics, outputs, benchmarks, participation metrics</i> | | | |
| <p>Year 1:</p> <p>Form team of five people to review Alpha program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Program cycle will last 11 weeks initially - Carol Slager, Coordinator of Alpha, program will participate in the St. John the Evangelist Alpha program to become familiar with the working of the program and how Alpha builds small faith communities - Commitment of 2-3 years for the members of the Alpha Team - Completed by end of June 2018 - Provide training for participants to be a small group leaders <p>September 2018, form small groups</p> <p>October 2018, core groups begin to meet</p> <p>Year 2 and Year 3:</p> <p>Continue to form new Alpha small groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New groups will be led by members of previous Alpha Groups - Continue to run 11 week Alpha series twice a year - Continue to host training sessions for new group leaders <p>Find additional programs and resources for those small groups who want to move beyond the Alpha Program</p> | | | |
| People Required to Accomplish Goal | | | |
| Existing Roles Requiring Allocation | Anticipated Start Date | Duration | Notes |
| Director of Parish Communications | 5/20/18 | Continuous | Advertising and promotion of small groups and programs |
| New Roles Required | Anticipated Start Date | Duration | Notes |

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| Alpha Coordinator (Carol Slager) | 4/1/18 | TBD | Coordinate formation of small groups. Facilitate Alpha training sessions. Provide ongoing support to small groups. |
| Initial Alpha Group | 6/30/18 | 6/2020 | Initial team will lead first series of Alpha groups and be responsible for training new group leaders |
| Other Financial Investments Required (Non-Staff/Volunteer) | | | |
| Investment | Estimated \$\$\$ | Duration | Notes |
| Hospitality | \$500 | ongoing | Providing food and drinks for participants for the Alpha 11 weeks series |
| Alpha Series | Free to use | ongoing | Available online to anyone who wishes to use it |
| Additional resources for small group discussion | TBD | ongoing | |
| FORMED.org Subscription | \$1600.00 | Yearly Subscription | Website has many different programs and series which small faith sharing groups can use as discussion content |
| Communication Needs | | | |
| Audience | Frequency | Vehicle/Means | Notes |
| Entire Parish | Weekly | All media outlets | Full time Director of Communications who will manage bulletin announcements, newspaper and external print media, social media platforms, website, mobile app, internal graphic design, NWI Catholic articles, and community calendars. |
| Sunday mass goers | Weekly | Bulletins | Bulletin editor |
| Sunday mass goers | Weekly | Mass announcements | Executive Secretary |

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| Priority 2 : Goal 1 | Priority: Evangelization Training (Evangelization) Rationale: Teach all parishioners how to share their faith and spread the Gospel Message to others. | | |
| SMART Goal: | During course of 2018 begin to lay foundation for parish-wide evangelization training | | |
| Primary Goal Champion <i>include role and individual</i> | Pastoral Associate, Janice Gatons | | |
| Other Key Persons for this Goal <i>include role and individuals</i> | Pastor Associate Pastor Deacons Director of Religious Education Liturgy & Spirituality Commission Stewardship Commission Pastoral Council | | |
| Key Strategies/Milestones Related to this Goal | | | |
| Key Strategy/Milestone <i>these should include any programs, initiatives, tactics, outputs, benchmarks, participation metrics</i> | | | |
| <p>Homily</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Preach on importance of sharing your faith with other people -Provide concrete suggestions on how to share our faith with others - Build parishioners' confidence so they can evangelize <p>Yearly parish mission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Choose speakers for parish mission who will emphasize and focus on evangelization -Measure attendance at parish mission -Attempt to increase attendance at parish mission through the media provided by our bulletin Editor and our Directory of Communications <p>Prayer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Have existing prayer groups within the parish such as daily Rosary Group, Centering Prayer Group, Eucharistic Adorers, etc... begin to pray for the success of parish evangelization - Include evangelization in both daily and Sunday mass intentions <p>Parish Registration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improve our parish registration process - Expand monthly Parish Registration Sunday - Increase number of registered families in the parish (Pastoral council will set parish goal) - Encourage regular attendees at mass to formally register in the parish | | | |
| People Required to Accomplish Goal | | | |
| Existing Roles Requiring Allocation | Anticipated Start Date | Duration | Notes |
| Priests and Deacons | 3/26/18 | Ongoing | Special emphasize on evangelization through homilies and preaching during 2018 |

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| Director of Communications | 3/26/18 | Ongoing | Media and bulletin reminders about evangelization |
| Liturgy & Spirituality Commission | 3/26/18 | Ongoing | Preparing liturgy with a mind toward evangelization |
| New Roles Required | Anticipated Start Date | Duration | Notes |
| Speakers for Parish Mission | October 2018 | Annually | Select speaker who is able to train people who are able to be evangelists |
| Investment | Estimated \$\$\$ | Duration | Notes |
| Parish Mission Speaker | \$2,000 | Yearly | |
| Hospitality for parish mission | \$500 | | |
| Printing advertisements and materials needed for mission | \$200 | | |
| Communication Needs | | | |
| Audience | Frequency | Vehicle/Mean | Notes |
| Entire Parish and visitors | Yearly | All media | Advertisement for Parish Mission |
| Parishioners at Mass | Weekly | Homily and Stewardship Challenges | Special emphasis on evangelization |

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| Priority 2 : Goal 2 | Priority: Evangelization Training (Evangelization) Rationale: Need to give regular parishioners the tools and inspiration to share their faith with others. | | |
| SMART Goal: | Expanding our adult educational opportunities through “Theology On Tap” and “Theology Uncorked” | | |
| Primary Goal Champion <i>include role and individual</i> | Pastoral Associate, Janice Gatons | | |
| Other Key Persons for this Goal <i>include role and individuals</i> | Theology on Tap Chairpersons (Erika and Andrew Dolder) Pastor and Associate Pastor Theology Uncorked Chairpersons (TBA) John Pruzin (Parishioner and Co-owner of Region Ale) Steve Martinez (Parishioner and Co-owner of Region Ale) Patrick Massoels, Director of Communications | | |
| Key Strategies/Milestones Related to this Goal | | | |
| Key Strategy/Milestone <i>these should include any programs, initiatives, tactics, outputs, benchmarks, participation metrics</i> | | | |
| Year 1: | | | |
| Host Theology on Tap to equip young adults to learn about and share their faith (Summer 2018) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Event planned for people 21 – 39 years of age - Discuss event with Region Ale owners - Set dates for three sessions (hoping for target dates in August) - Arrange and schedule topics/speakers - Advertisement of events through all usual media channels - Target goal of 20-30 people per session | | | |
| Host Theology Uncorked to equip people to learn about and share their faith (Summer of 2018) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Event planned for people 40+ years of age - Discuss event with Ciao Bella owner - Set dates for three sessions (hoping for target dates in July and August) - Arrange and schedule topics/speakers - Advertisement of events through all usual media channels - Target goal of 30-35 people per session | | | |
| Explore new channels of communications through social media such as Snapchat, Instagram, etc... to stay in touch with young adults | | | |
| Year 2: | | | |
| Evaluate effectiveness of 2018 Theology Untapped/Theology Uncorked Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meeting of chairpersons to make necessary changes for Theology On Tap/Theology Uncorked (January 2019) - Set dates for upcoming summer sessions of all events | | | |
| People Required to Accomplish Goal | | | |
| Existing Roles Requiring Allocation | Anticipated Start Date | Duration | Notes |
| Communications Coordinator | 3/5/18 | Continuous | Advertising |

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| Liturgy & Spirituality Commission | 3/5/18 | Continuous | Assist in finding speakers |
| Stewardship Commission | 3/5/18 | Continuous | Assist with events |
| New Roles Required | Anticipated Start Date | Duration | Notes |
| Chairpersons for Theology On Tap | April 30, 2018 | One year commitment | Option to continue with program |
| Chairpersons for Theology Uncorked | April 30, 2018 | One year commitment | Option to continue with program |
| Other Financial Investments Required (Non-Staff/Volunteer) | | | |
| Investment | Estimated \$\$\$ | Duration | Notes |
| Speakers | \$1200 | Annually | |
| Hospitality | TBD | | Price to be set with owners of Region Ale and Ciao Bella |
| Printing/Advertisement | \$200 | Throughout program season | Flyers, Bulletin, Newspaper ads |
| Communication Needs | | | |
| Audience | Frequency | Vehicle/Mean | Notes |
| Adults of local community | Daily | All media | Parish Director of Communications will handle |

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| Priority 3 : Goal 1 | Priority: Expansion of ministries of justice and charity (Social Teaching) Rationale: Create moral awareness of others' needs and our collective responsibility to address those needs beyond our own borders |
| SMART Goal: | By end 2020, have established a relationship with a parish in Haiti and have executed a plan to assist said parish |
| Primary Goal Champion <i>include role and individual</i> | Deacon Ron |
| Other Key Persons for this Goal <i>include role and individuals</i> | Pastor, Associate Pastor, Deacons School Principal Director of Religious Education Liturgy & Spirituality Commission Stewardship Commission Pastoral Council |
| Key Strategies/Milestones Related to this Goal | |
| Key Strategy/Milestone <i>these should include any programs, initiatives, tactics, outputs, benchmarks, participation metrics</i> | |
| <p>Year 1:</p> <p>Preliminary Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contact Gary Diocese to obtain contact information for our sister diocese in Haiti - Contact our sister diocese in Haiti to begin discussions about how our parish can be of assistance - A parish delegation goes down to visit our designated sister parish by end of 2018 <p>Year 2:</p> <p>Plan and execute mission trip to Haitian Parish</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop detail plan and present to pastoral council (January 2019) - Investigate funding strategies for travel expenses (January 2019) - Educate parishioners about the needs of children in our sister diocese in Haiti and invite current ministries to participate in this endeavor - Teach St. Michael school and Faith Formation students about our sister parish in Haiti - Collection of money and charitable donations for mission trip (Spring and Summer of 2019) - Sign-up for mission trip to Haiti (Summer and Fall of 2019) - Parish mission trip leaves for Haiti to bring supplies and donations at end of 2019 <p>Year 3:</p> <p>Arrange for Haitian delegation to visit here at St. Michael the Archangel Parish</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Invite delegates from Haiti to visit our parish (January 2020) - Raise funds to assist delegates from Haiti to travel to our parish - Arrange for housing for delegates during their visit - Delegates will further educate parishioners about the needs of children in our sister diocese in Haiti and invite current ministries to participate in this endeavor - Haitian delegates will visit school and faith formation classes to share with students the experiences being a Catholic in Haiti | |

Establish a plan for an annual mission trip to our sister parish in Haiti
 - Setting up a committee to ensure the continuation of our annual mission trip
 - Plan an annual fundraiser for Haitian mission trip

| Existing Roles Requiring Allocation | Anticipated Start Date | Duration | Notes |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Pastoral Council | January 2018 | December 2020 | Oversee and give approval for mission trip planning |
| Peace and Social Justice Commission | Spring 2019 | Continuous | Oversee annual fundraising and collection of donated goods |
| Stewardship Commission | Spring 2019 | Continuous | Oversee annual fundraising and collection of donated goods |
| New Roles Required | Anticipated Start Date | Duration | Notes |
| Point person for initial contact | January 2018 | Spring 2019 | Deacon Ron Pyle |
| Mission trip committee | Fall 2018 | Two year commitment | |

Other Financial Investments Required (Non-Staff/Volunteer)

| Investment | Estimated \$\$\$ | Duration | Notes |
|-------------------|------------------|----------|--|
| Travel Expenses | TBD | | |
| Shipping Expenses | TBD | | Supplies and donations to be shipped prior to mission trip |

Communication Needs

| Audience | Frequency | Vehicle/Mean | Notes |
|------------------------------|------------|-------------------|--|
| Haitian Diocese | Once | Email/Call | Haitian Diocese will assign us a sister parish |
| Haitian Parish | Continuous | Email/Call | |
| St. Michael Parish Community | Continuous | All media outlets | Monthly updates in Bulletin as well as distribution of other news and information about Haitian Parish |



Conclusion

The Community of _____, led by _____ and with the enthusiastic support of the Parish Planning Team, are grateful for the opportunity to create this plan and excited for the fruit that will come from our collaborative efforts. With great excitement we share this plan with the Bishop of Gary and we look forward to fulfilling the vision of the Synod and Christ's Great Command to "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations."

Respectfully Submitted on:

Parish Planning Team Members

Signature, Pastor: _____

Signature, Moderator: _____

Signature, Member: _____

Signature, Member: _____

Signature, Member: _____

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