

CHRIST OUR HOPE CATHOLIC CHURCH
Manual for Mission



Our Mission

Christ Our Hope Catholic Church in Downtown Seattle is a beacon of light where all are welcome to grow in Faith, Hope and Love through:

- Evangelization & compassionate outreach
- Vibrant celebrations of liturgy
- Programs of faith formation
- Responsible stewardship

We are a diverse people of God whose faith inspires hope that shows itself in love.

Spe Salvi

GOAL ONE - Outreach through compassionate service and the new evangelization

GOAL TWO - Full, active, and conscious public worship and faith development

GOAL THREE - A diverse and inclusive community formed in faith and justice

GOAL FOUR - Responsible stewardship

CHRIST OUR HOPE CATHOLIC CHURCH Manual for Mission

PART ONE: ORGANIZATION

The Councils, Commissions and Committees of Christ Our Hope Parish

CHRIST OUR HOPE COUNCILS

Christ Our Hope has two councils to advise the pastoral leader on the mission of the parish, its' strategic plan, the activities of the parish, and on all matters presented to them by the pastoral leader. The Councils are:

1. Pastoral Council

The Parish Pastoral Council is a consultative body to the pastoral leader. The role of a Council is to help the pastoral leader in coming to understand and live out the parish's pastoral mission fostering pastoral activity in caring for and leading the parish. The Council collaborates with the pastoral leader to discern through consultation.

The Pastoral Council reflects our parish community. Potential members of the pastoral council are nominated by parishioners and will then prayerfully discern their potential involvement in the Parish Council. Ideally, members serve three-year terms.

2. Finance Council

The Finance Council supports the good governance of the parish and helps to ensure financial accountability to the policies of the archdiocese and to the parishioners. It provides the pastoral leader valuable advice and assistance in the execution of his parish financial administration duties and promotes good stewardship of all parish resources. Finance Council members are selected by the pastoral leader.

CHRIST OUR HOPE CATHOLIC CHURCH Manual for Mission

CHRIST OUR HOPE COMMISSIONS

Christ Our Hope has five standing commissions to assist with the development, implementation and coordination of pastoral activity and policies in a specific area of parish life. Membership is generally open to interested parishioners, under the direction of each Commission chair. The Commissions are:

1. Outreach & Social Justice

This commission discerns and responds to the needs of persons in the parish, the wider community of Seattle, and the world, identifying resources to meet their needs and enlisting the active cooperation of parishioners. The commission may have committees, such as CRS, Immersions Programs, Cabrini ministers, and Agency partnerships.

2. Liturgy

This commission nourishes and gives direction to the liturgical and communal prayer life of the community. The members collaborate with the pastoral leader and staff on liturgy preparation, the training and formation of the various liturgical ministers, and the formation of the assembly about the sacraments and liturgy. The commission may have committees, such as Art and Environment and Liturgical Ministers.

3. Faith Formation

This commission promotes and develops opportunities for lifelong faith formation aimed at personal conversion and growth in faith. The members collaborate with the pastoral leader and staff in this area of mission on all programs of catechesis, sacramental preparation, and adult faith formation. The commission may have committees, such as RCIA, 1st Communion, and Adult and Family Ministry.

4. Stewardship and Evangelization

This Commission is concerned with the promotion of Christian stewardship as a way of life and the long-term viability of Christ Our Hope in downtown Seattle. The members collaborate with the pastoral leader and the staff to develop strategies that encourage evangelization, build and sustain relationships with local businesses, and strengthen the financial future. They will help lead Stewardship of Time, Talent and Treasure.

CHRIST OUR HOPE CATHOLIC CHURCH Manual for Mission

5. **Parish Life & Vitality Commission**

This commission is concerned with those matters that build an internal parish family spirit and improve community life as well as work to increase the on-going vitality of the parish, by helping members of the parish family to develop and deeper understanding of, and commitment to their respective roles as fully engaged parishioners.

The commission will promote unity and connectedness among parish members, support and sustain relationships with the Josephinum resident community, and engage parishioners in sharing their time and talent. Committees include new parishioner welcome, Mass hospitality, Josephinum hospitality.

CHRIST OUR HOPE COMMITTEES

These Committees are action groups who collaborate Pastoral leadership, the Pastoral and Finance Councils, and Commissions in developing and implementing plans and procedures in a specific area of concern. Membership is generally open to interested parishioners, under the direction of each Commission chair.

1. Communications

The Communications Committee strives to support the various ways in which the members of COH and the parish communicate. This includes the development and organization of effective modes of communication to promote awareness of COH's programs, service opportunities and useful resources. It also facilitates sharing of information between groups within the parish and the larger community to further the mission of the parish community.

2. Facilities

The Facilities Committee is charged the management of the physical properties of the parish and assuring a safe physical environment in the worship space, meeting rooms, and office facility. This committee works in partnership with Catholic Housing Services and the Archdiocese to address emergent and long-term physical environment issues, concerns and opportunities.

[See Many Gifts: Consultative Leadership](#) for detail regarding roles and responsibilities, duties and suggested terms of engagement