

Missionary Discipleship *An Action Plan for the Parish*

The diocesan challenge for Courageously Living the Gospel culminates in a parish action plan. We've developed one. Our parish plan addresses three important areas: youth, family and "missionary discipleship."

This page is your introduction to Missionary Discipleship. We pray the Holy Spirit will prompt you to read on, be open to the challenge – and maybe inspire you to become part of the team.

It is said of families that pray together, stay together. The same goes for our church. We are a family of believers and followers of Jesus Christ. We are in this together and together we will grow in our faith as individuals and as a church.

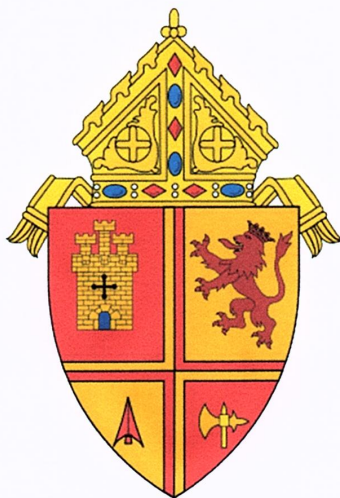
To develop an action plan, we looked at the results of the online parish survey members of the parish took last year and we consulted our own experience in the parish. Consequently, three goals have been set for our parish.

Goal number one is to lead all the people in our pews to a deeper Faith. We will achieve this together as a parish through increased prayer – prayer to Courageously Live the Gospel in our daily lives and to become Missionary Disciples.

Missionary Disciples are agents of the Gospel. We spread the Good News. Everyone can be a missionary disciple. *"We have found the Messiah!" (John 1:41)*. When our entire church is praying and working toward the same goal, God will listen.

Goal number two will involve contacting parishioners who no longer appear to be involved in our

parish. In our conversations with them, we will learn why they no longer participate in our Liturgies and other activities. This will be an opportunity for them, upon



COURAGEOUSLY *Living the Gospel*

hearing the Word from their families and neighbors, to reestablish their relationship with the Catholic Faith and Our Lady of Grace Church.

Goal number three is to reach out to non-Catholics. We will want to introduce them to our RCIA program, the **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**, through which the Holy Spirit will lead them to the gift of Baptism.

We plan to achieve very specific goals in these three areas by Pentecost 2020 (May 31, 2020).

Our Missionary Discipleship Plan has been presented to Bishop Parkes and approved for action. We are excited to be involved in carrying out this important parish initiative.

There are many ways to actively participate in the life the Church besides attending Mass each weekend. Yes, this is important since through it others

recognize you as a witness to the Faith. There are many needs to be filled in the parish, and the Pastor wants everyone to demonstrate their love of God and neighbor by joining in the Liturgy, parish devotions, parish ministries and other parish activities.

As sons and daughters of God, each of us has received from the Almighty talents that are unique to each of us. As a community of faith, we pray that the Holy Spirit will guide you toward a particular ministry or group or task within the parish where your talent will shine.

We especially need volunteers for the Missionary Discipleship team if we are to meet the goals of this action plan. For more information, contact Rose Mary Jeselson, Ismael or Virginia Villafane.

Missionary Discipleship

"The LORD waits to be gracious to you, and therefore he exalts himself to show mercy to you." (Isaiah 30:18)

**In his Holy Name, we will
be waiting for you on
FRIDAY August 23rd
in the PLC conference
room at 9 a.m. or 5 p.m.
Please Come
Thank you**

God bless you!