

Saint Faustina

CATHOLIC CHURCH



Pastoral Plan

Saint Faustina

2018 - 2023



**St. Faustina Catholic Church is a community where the deep love
and mercy of God is lived, experienced and shared**

Saint Faustina

FROM OUR PASTOR



Fr. Dat Hoang

Dear Friends,

Imagine a community where all people have “devoted themselves with one accord to prayers” (Acts 1:14).

Imagine a parish where the people are of one heart and mind, caring for one another and beyond the parish, praying and witnessing to the Gospel with power from the Holy Spirit (Acts 4:32-35).

Four years ago when our parish was established, it was not simply by accident or just the Cardinal's desire. God brought us together for a reason. “For I know the plans I have for you!” (Jeremiah 29:11).

Therefore, it is important for us as a founding community to stay rooted in prayer and to constantly discern God's will and plan for us.

In this past year, the Pastoral Council has dedicated itself to work with staff and parishioners through listening sessions, surveys, intense prayers and discernment to put together a Pastoral Plan where the Spirit of God, working in the community, is leading us in the next 5 years. I am deeply grateful to the members of Pastoral Council, the Staff and all who participated in this important process.

It is with great joy and excitement that I present the Pastoral Plan to the parish. I am looking forward to growing together as a community according to God's Holy Will.

While I am overwhelmed with joyful hope, I charge the people of St. Faustina to not let this amazing Pastoral Plan be a dead document with empty words.

I call on every parishioner, every family to prayerfully read, discern and commit to at least one way you can contribute to making this plan a reality in our parish. For it is the living faith of the people of God, not cold bricks and stones, that builds us together into the beautiful temple of God as written in the first letter of St. Peter: “Like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house” (1 Peter 2:5).

I entrust our Pastoral Plan, our parish and every single one of us to the Love and Mercy of God. Let us surrender ourselves and proclaim, after the model of Mary our Heavenly Mother, “May it be done to me according to your word” (Luke 1:38).

Jesus I trust in You!

Saint Faustina, pray for us.

Fr. Dat Hoang

Pastor

CARE





Saint Faustina

"every one in the world can belong to this group"

St. Faustina Catholic Church Pastoral Plan

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

We, the members of your Pastoral Council, were asked by Fr. Dat to assist you, the St. Faustina community, to prayerfully establish spiritual priorities and goals for the next five years by developing a pastoral plan.

The Pastoral Plan will lay the path to best achieve our parish mission to be a community where the deep love and mercy of God is lived, experienced and shared. Through your help in participating in listening sessions and surveys, we discerned five key objective areas:

- Worship
- Engagement
- Formation
- Discipleship
- Evangelization

Each objective statement is a five-year vision for St. Faustina in that key area. For our parish to grow in holiness, we must intentionally plan. Therefore, after each objective are action steps to help us achieve that vision.

The pastoral council is committed to keeping you updated on the progress of the action items. We will celebrate our achievements together. As you read this pastoral plan summary, prayerfully consider where you can lend your gifts and talents. Let us all strive to answer God's call as St. Faustina did, *"Oh, how good it is to abandon oneself totally to God and to give Him full freedom to act in one's soul!"* (Diary 134)

With loving service,
St. Faustina Pastoral Council
Jerry Portele – Chair
Gaylin Soderstrom – Vice Chair
Leanne James
Carrie Sinosis
Ricardo Medina
Alicia Stoffers
Miguel Armenta
Felix Kanyinda
Mark Nieberding
Richard Jones
Adel Leonida

"Everyone in the world can belong to this group. When I see that the burden is beyond my strength, I do not consider or analyze it or probe into it, but I run like a child to the Heart of Jesus and say only one word to Him: 'You can do all things.' And then I keep silent, because I know that Jesus Himself will intervene in the matter, and as for me, instead of tormenting myself, I use that time to love Him." (Diary 1033)

PASTORAL COUNCIL



Worship

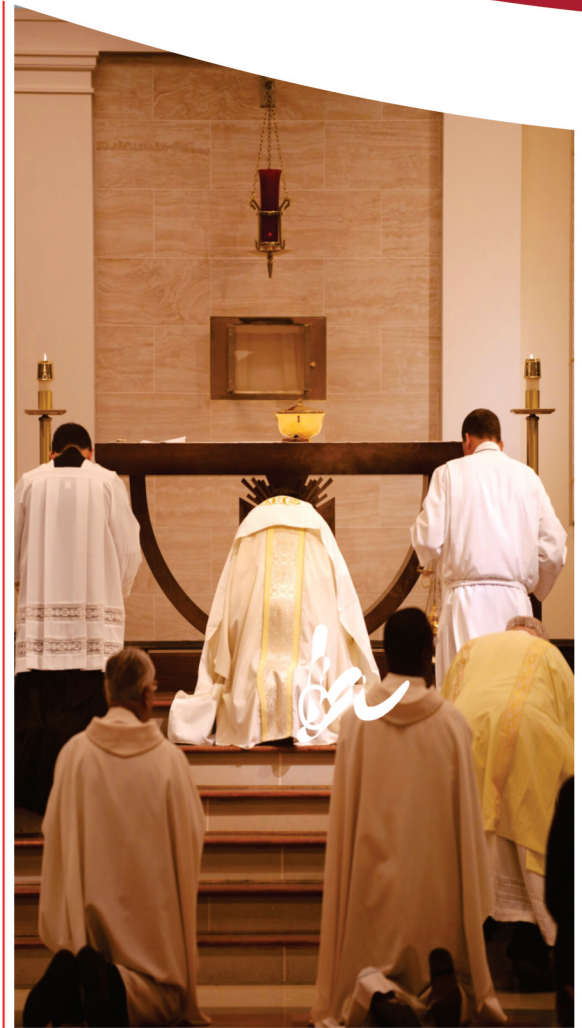


St. Faustina Parish, united in God's love, will have a greater consciousness of and deeper appreciation for the Liturgy and Sacraments of the Church, inspiring active and transformative participation in worship. St. Faustina will devote the resources to meet the worship needs and prayer life of the community.

1. Create and implement programs that educate parishioners on the meaning and significance of the Church Sacraments to encourage a deeper appreciation and participation by Summer 2022.
2. Create and implement a program that teaches the community the meaning, sacredness and significance of The Mass by Summer of 2019. (Teaching Mass slow motion Mass).
3. Increase Eucharistic Adoration and opportunity for devotional prayer; include a perpetual adoration chapel by 2023.
4. Provide resources to annually increase the number of households who come spiritually prepared for Sunday Celebration by 25%.

"The liturgy is the summit toward which the activity of the Church is directed; it is also the font from which all her power flows." (CCC 1074)

"When I was attending Mass in a certain church with another sister; I felt the greatness and majesty of God; I felt the Church was permeated by God... (Diary 409)



When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to them. Luke 24:30



Formation

St. Faustina will have vibrant and engaging Faith Formation Programs, unified in our mission of mercy, for all stages and walks of life that will nurture our community's spiritual development and conversion of faith, making us living witnesses of the Gospel.

1. Create a committee that advises and supports the Faith Formation Director.
2. Develop programs to further educate our catechism for all spiritual formation.
3. Coordinate family events to allow participation for all family members – nurture spiritual development for the entire family/all age groups; provide child care once facilities allow.
4. Create programs to enrich and engage parents while their children are in faith formation class.
5. By 2023, 50% of registered parishioner households will annually participate in at least one Faith Formation initiative (outside of Mass).
6. Sustain and annually increase current programs for adult formation at all stages of life.

“In the formation of conscience the Word of God is the light for our path, we must assimilate it in faith and prayer and put it into practice.

We must also examine our conscience before the Lord's Cross. We are assisted by the gifts of the Holy Spirit, aided by the witness or advice of others and guided by the authoritative teaching of the Church.” (CCC 1785)

“I desire from you deeds of mercy, which are to arise out of love for Me. You are to show mercy to your neighbor always and everywhere.” (Diary 742)



*Comfort, comfort my people, says your
God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem.
Isaiah 40:1-2a*

Discipleship



St. Faustina Parishioners, recognizing with gratitude God's gifts, will share their blessings through prayer, service, and sacrificial giving to become a beacon of Divine Mercy that radiates to the greater community.

1. Implement Gifted and Called programs to help parishioners recognize their gifts and share in service to the community.
2. Create a work group comprised of ministry leaders, staff and clergy to develop ministry guidelines.
3. Coordinate family events to allow participation by all family members.
4. Develop a parish ministry council to foster communication and collaboration among parish ministries to increase stewardship and discipleship.
5. Create programs such as leadership development and retreats to inspire, sustain, and enrich ministry leaders and ministries.
6. Celebrate Stewardship Sunday to foster prayer, service and sacrificial giving.

For it will be as when a man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted to them his property; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. (Matthew 25:14)

"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace" (1 Pt 4:10).

The Christian steward is "one who receives God's gifts gratefully, cherishes and tends them in a responsible and accountable manner, shares them in justice and love with others, and returns them with increase to the Lord"

U.S Bishops Pastoral Letter on Stewardship, November 1992



"For it will be as when a man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted to them his property;

To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability.

Matthew 25:14-15a



Evangelization

St. Faustina, like a fire spreading across a field, will go out into the community to bear witness and be examples of our Catholic faith through merciful service, igniting God's transformative love in others.

1. Develop resources within the parish to provide spiritual guidance and support to community members with specific needs by June 2023.
2. Increase parish participation in five community-wide events by June 2020.
3. Appoint an Outreach Coordinator to identify and organize service opportunities to perform spiritual and corporal works of mercy in the broader community by 2022.
4. Create an annual ecumenical, inter-religious event with another faith community by 2021.
5. Coordinate emergency response with neighboring faith communities by 2022.

*"So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet"
(John 13:14)*



*I prefer a Church which is bruised, hurting and dirty because it has been out on the streets, rather than a Church which is unhealthy from being confined and from clinging to its own security."
Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium, 49*

Engagement



St. Faustina, acknowledging the blessing of our great cultural diversity, will be an inclusive community where Parishioners have a sense of belonging and are aware of service opportunities in order to contribute to our parish life and mission.

1. Create a committee focused on celebrating cultural diversity and fostering unity.
2. Increase and sustain the number of Small Christian Communities.
3. Increase the number of opportunities and events that facilitate parishioner interactions.
4. Hire a Communications Director by December 2018 in order to develop and implement a parish communications plan by Summer 2019.
5. Expand the scope and resources of the Welcome Committee beginning Summer 2020 to actively reach out and engage new parishioners.

"Feed us flame of love for Christ, love for the Church, and give us the momentum to announce the Gospel to the people of today with mercy, patience, courage and joy." (Pope Francis Pastoral Conversation, Rome June 22, 2014)



So we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Romans 12:5





Saint Faustina

Each week of Advent please read a portion of the Parish Pastoral Plan and the Scripture. Prayerfully discern how God may be calling you to a deeper relationship with Him through our Parish.

December 2, First Sunday in Advent Pastoral Plan Focus: Worship

Jeremiah 33:14-16; Psalm 25:4-5, 8-10, 14; 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2; Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

Read the selection on Worship. Prayerfully discern how God is calling you to a deeper appreciation for the Liturgy and Sacraments of the Church. Write down the heart of your prayer and discernment:

Prayer: Heavenly Father, we pray the prayer of the Psalmist today, "Your ways, O Lord, make known to me; teach me Your paths, guide me in Your truth and teach me, for You are God my savior, and for You I wait all the day." I invite the Holy Spirit to open my heart that You may teach me through your Holy Liturgy and the graces that flow from your Sacraments of Healing. Amen

December 8, Second Sunday in Advent Pastoral Plan Focus: Engagement and Formation

Baruch 5:1-9; Psalm 126:1-6; Phillipians 1:4-6, 8-11; Luke 3:1-6

Read the selections on Engagement and Formation. Prayerfully discern how God is calling you to serve our parish life. Write down the heart of your prayer and discernment:

Prayer: Heavenly Father, I pray that my love for You may increase ever more and more. Guide my heart and life so I may become a minister in our parish guiding others to love You more and more. Guide my life so that I continuously glorify You and Your mercy. Amen



December 16, Third Sunday of Advent **Pastoral Plan Focus: Discipleship and Evangelization**

Zephaniah 3:14-18A; Isaiah 12: 2-6; Phillipians 4:4-7; Luke 3:10-18

Read the selections on Discipleship and Evangelization. Prayerfully discern how God is calling you to use your gifts to ignite Christ's light in others. Write down the heart of your prayer and discernment:

Prayer: Gracious and merciful God, I pray that through the grace of the Holy Spirit I will respond "Yes!" to the call of Discipleship and Evangelization. Kindle within me the passion to spread Christ's message to all people and all nations. Show me how I can best be Your instrument in transforming society through the works of mercy, ministering in Jesus' name. Amen

December 22, Fourth Sunday in Advent **Pastoral Plan Focus: Where do I feel called?**

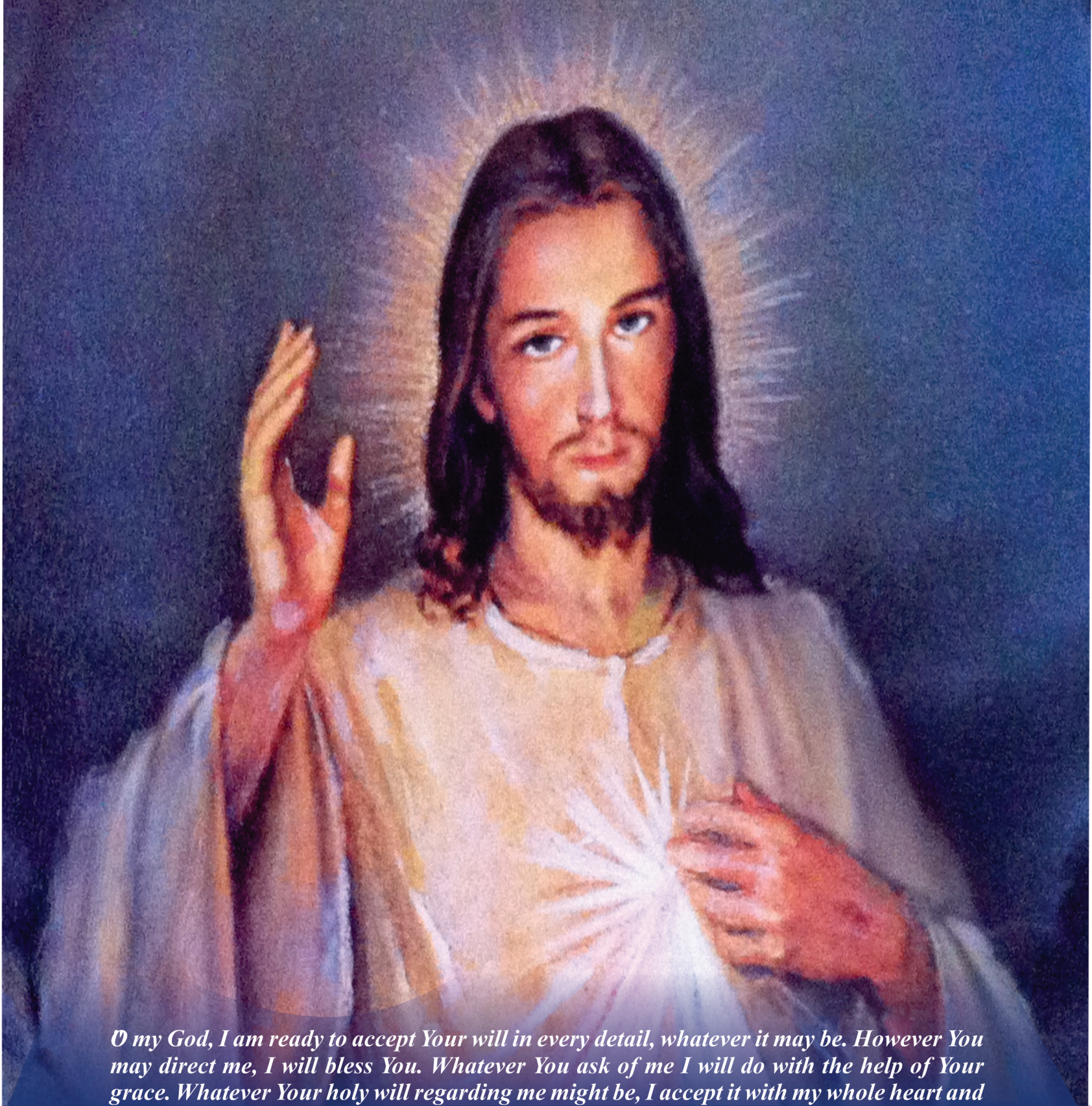
Micah 5:1-4A, Psalm 80: 2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45

This week, reflect on all five Pastoral Plan topics. Prayerfully discern where you feel most called to share your unique gifts. Select one action you can take to contribute to the success of our Parish Pastoral Plan. Examples: help during a teaching Mass, Usher, attend a Healing Mass, or attend a Bible study. These are only a few ideas. How is God calling you?

Write down the heart of your prayer and discernment:

Prayer: Almighty God, Mary believed that what was spoken to her by the Lord would be fulfilled. Help us to dedicate our hearts so completely that we also believe. Empower each parishioner to offer the gifts You have given so that we may each serve You through our church, and that through us Your word will be fulfilled.

Guide me so I may know where You call me to serve. Father I ask that You bless our parish and continue to grow our relationship with You through Worship, Engagement, Formation, Discipleship, and Evangelization. Amen



Oh my God, I am ready to accept Your will in every detail, whatever it may be. However You may direct me, I will bless You. Whatever You ask of me I will do with the help of Your grace. Whatever Your holy will regarding me might be, I accept it with my whole heart and soul. (Diary, 1356)

