

St. Mary Parish Spirituality Commission

Revised on June 15, 2009

2012 Mission: The Spirituality Commission of St. Mary Parish, with prayer and God's grace, reaches out to, and walks together with all seekers of faith. Our spiritual programs serve as channels to strengthen and deepen relationships with the Lord and among his people. Through our sacramental preparation programs, we invite all to enter more fully into the blessings of our Catholic faith.



Vision for 2014. The Spirituality Commission programs deepen the faith of all St. Mary parishioners. Our monthly speakers, quarterly retreats, RCIA, Bible Study, and continuing faith formation inspire and foster spiritual enrichment for the adults, teens, and families of our Parish.

A vibrant and active faith community enable our many disciples, involved in ministry, to serve in parish programs such as Pre-Cana, baptismal preparation, bereavement support, and the prayer line. The people who participate in our ministries have a sense of belonging, feel loved by God, the community, and eagerly anticipate our next event.

With energy and enthusiasm the community gathers to worship and serve the Lord through concerts, ecumenical events, intergenerational programs, and mission trips. The people of St. Mary are invited to participate in our ministries through personal invitation, bulletin articles, the parish-wide email system, and announcements at all Masses. Parishioners love the babysitting service available at most adult events.

Our Spirituality Commission programs foster a deeper relationship with Jesus, create energized disciples, lead to a richer understanding of our Catholic history, scriptures, and traditions, as well as provide community outreach and support. There is something for everyone, so take a look, know that we welcome your participation, and look forward to "living and growing in God's love" with you.

Former Vision for 2008: The Spirituality and Sacramental Ministry is building a welcoming and effective spiritual resource ministry for our parish community. After worship itself, this ministry will be the place that St. Mary's parishioners go to for spiritual fulfillment, information, growth, and support. With prayer and God's grace, we dare to passionately dream of nourishing all our parishioners to embrace a deeper personal relationship with Jesus Christ. This ministry will be where our community turns to in life and in death. Here are our goals: Through our sacramental preparation programs, we invite people to enter more fully into the blessings of their Catholic faith, and encourage them to become more involved in the life of their parish. In particular, we will emphasize and act upon the internal evangelization opportunities and teachable moments that are present during preparations for baptisms, weddings, and funerals at our parish. To keep the parish informed and involved, each parish bulletin and seasonal parish newsletter will include specific, timely publicity and information about all our spiritual programs and services. Through targeted recruitment efforts based on information found in our parish census update, we will increase participation in our Small Church Communities, Men's Spirituality programs, Adult Faith Formation activities, and all our quality spiritual programs. Our parish Days of Reflection will increase to two per year, with topics that address current specific parish spiritual needs as discerned by our commission members and the parish retreat team. Adult Faith Formation will offer two multi-generational family festivals each year, which will especially reach out to the families of our school and religious education students. We will also conduct a vibrant parish mission each year that fills the church building, so that our parish may be renewed in Christ. The high school youth of our parish will participate fully in all dimensions of our parish community life, especially in regard to the Sunday evening Mass, Christian Service projects, small group meetings, and religious retreat experiences throughout the year.