

# **Parish Mission and Vision Statements**

Revised on June 25, 2009

**2012 Parish Mission / Vision Statement:** St. Mary Parish is a Catholic Christian faith community of the Diocese of Joliet. We reach out to the needs of all people by welcoming, evangelizing, serving, and teaching as disciples of Jesus. Through our Baptism, we serve one another by living the Gospel, and being stewards of time, talent, and treasure. Nourished by the Spirit through the Word, the Eucharist, and our cherished Catholic beliefs and sacred traditions, we walk together, empowered by our faith, to live and grow in God's love.

**2002 Former Parish Mission Statement:** We, the parishioners of St. Mary, are committed to living the gospel message of Jesus Christ through worship, education, and service of our parish, our community and our world.

**2002 Former Parish Vision Statement:** St. Mary Parish seeks to be a Roman Catholic community steeped in the traditions passed on from our Lord Jesus Christ. We want to be good stewards by sharing our time, talent and treasures within our parish, community and beyond. Our vision will be evident through our active participation in:

**Community Building:** We are a warm and caring community who enthusiastically lives and shares our faith through commitment to Catholic traditions and beliefs. We encourage and sponsor social gatherings that lead us to know one another and form relationships.

**Ministry:** We provide leaders to minister to the diverse needs of our parishioners. We are aware of existing outreach programs, services, and resources that guide and support us through serious life issues involving physical, spiritual, and social needs. We develop new programs, services, and resources as our needs arise.

**Worship and Spiritual Life:** We recognize that we are the church. We provide appropriate, inspirational, Catholic worship inclusive of all members of the assembly and their faith and physical needs.

**Faith Formation and Spiritual Growth:** We nurture and foster the spiritual growth of all our parishioners through a wide variety of faith-filled learning experiences. We support our parochial school and Religious Education Program as models of excellence in academic and moral education.

## **Parish Motto and Annual Themes**

The official parish motto, "Living and Growing in God's Love," was approved by the Pastoral Council in 2004. In addition to the ongoing parish motto, the Pastoral Council develops different focus themes for each year.

- Parish Theme for 2004: ". . . for 140 Years"
- Parish Theme for 2005: ". . . during the Year of the Eucharist"
- Parish Theme for 2006: ". . . with Appreciation for Fr. Koop's Vision"
- Parish Theme for 2007: ". . . with a focus on Vocations"
- Parish Theme for 2008: ". . . celebrating Marriage and Family Life"
- Parish Theme for 2009: ". . . as a Welcoming Community"
- Parish Theme for 2010: