



St. Malachi Parish

PARISH COLLABORATION



St. Patrick Parish

Faith Formation & Spiritual Life Work Group Summary Sheet as of June 12, 2024

Members: Kate Campbell (P) Chairperson, Dc. Leo Bistak (M), Jan Leitch (M), Marge Thomas-Repcik (P)

CSC Liaison: Stephanie Williams (P)
Staff: Stephanie Pritts (P&M)

Define the problem/outcome/vision for your team's area.

We envision a parish where people can:

- Feel welcome, invited, valued, and inspired.
- Encounter and develop a personal relationship with Christ.
- Mature in their knowledge and experience of the faith.
- Become disciples through learning, prayer, sacraments, retreats, faith sharing, and renewal.
- Experience a vital, meaningful community with other disciples.
- Become missionary disciples through their lived experiences.

What is today for us – St P. and St M.

- St. Malachi has a Spiritual Development Commission that coordinates multiple programs.
 1. Small groups for prayer and study
 2. Adult faith formation with speaker series, videos, and book and document studies
 3. Different styles of prayer opportunities and devotions
 4. Retreats
- The parishes have a combined Faith Formation/PSR model that includes in-person and at-home lessons for parents and children.
 - 50 children enrolled in PSR
 - 14 prepared for First Communion
 - 6 celebrated Confirmation
- Families preparing to baptize a child meet with Faith Formation team members.
- St. Patrick's hosts intergenerational events and service projects throughout the liturgical year.
- St. Patrick's has a monthly Family Mass that supports liturgical catechesis.
- St. Malachi & St. Patrick have a combined RCIA program; 4 neophytes entered the church at Easter
- St. Patrick's has multiple small group programs.

Future Faith Formation Priorities and Values

We envision faith formation and spiritual growth for all ages and all stages:

- An intergenerational faith formation program that includes parents and children.
- A vibrant youth and young adult ministry.
- A vacation Bible School.
- An evangelizing effort that includes both those who are estranged and those who have never been members of the Church.
- Adult catechesis through RCIA, speakers, small faith sharing and study groups.
- Experiences of different styles of prayer and devotions.
- Continue ministry to the homebound and hospitalized.

We envision a parish where we develop and support lay leaders.

We envision a center for Catholic Social Teaching.

Options/alternatives/ideas we explored that could possibly work for us (pros & cons)

Could we alternate where PSR happens back and forth – (feedback about that)

- The diocese recommends that Faith Formation include parents and be intergenerational.
- USCCB has 3 major goals for adult catechesis:
 1. Invite and Enable Ongoing Conversion to Jesus in Holiness of Life
 2. Promote and Support Active Membership in the Christian Community
 3. Call and Prepare Adults to Act as Disciples in Mission to the World
- Catholic Alpha as described in Divine Renovation, used in the Diocese of Cleveland
- Ten values of a healthy growing church as described in Divine Renovation
- Christ Life as used successfully at St. Peter's in North Ridgeville.
- Best Practices of the Diocese of Erie PA
- Loyola Press: Best practices for adult catechesis
- Formed.org - various online options for adult faith formation.
- Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius.

Additional Considerations

- Pursue conversations at the Deanery level for a youth minister.
- Investigate the possibility of creating a Vacation Bible School for our Deanery.
- Create joint confirmation experiences for the candidates in our Deanery.
- Publicize opportunities for spiritual direction.
- Consider a center for lay leadership training and Catholic Social Teaching at St. Malachi campus.
- Support and encourage the formation of small faith sharing groups.
- Enhance our relationship with Metro Catholic staff, parents, and students.