

**Faith Formation Mission Outline for Pastoral Plan  
2017**

**Liturgical/Sacramental**

**Enhance Confirmation Prep/JR High Workcamp (JHWC)**

- a. *Description:* Continue to incorporate more retreat components into the JHWC experience and include more engagement with the parents.
- b. *Time Frame:* 1 year
- c. *Objectives:*
  - i. Design an opening Praise and Worship Prayer service for the 8<sup>th</sup> graders and their parents
  - ii. Host this prayer on the Wednesday night of JHWC before the 8<sup>th</sup> graders delve into talks and discussion about service
  - iii. Invite parents to stay on the Wednesday night of JHWC after the opening prayer service with continued adoration and reflection on the sacrament of Confirmation before they attend the JHWC meeting with Derek and the 8<sup>th</sup> graders at 8:30 pm
  - iv. Continue to discern more ways to weave in our faith into our service experiences
- d. *Measure of performance:* Positive feedback
- e. *Resources Required:*
  - i. Coordinators of JHWC
  - ii. Music and Musicians
  - iii. Monstrance and the Eucharist
  - iv. Chapel, Church, and DeSales Hall
  - v. Priest

**Re-introduce Liturgical Catechesis**

- a. *Description:* Provide catechetical opportunities that refresh the laity's understanding of the Mass and explores why we do what we do.
- b. *Time Frame:* 1 year
- c. *Objectives:*
  - i. Collaborate with the Director of Liturgy on Liturgical Catechetical initiatives
  - ii. Provide opportunities for the faithful to reflect on the meaning of Mass
  - iii. Highlight Formed.org programs that encourage reflection on the Mass
- d. *Measure of Performance:* 25+ people attending the opportunities and an increase in Mass participation
- e. *Resources Requires:*
  - i. Director of Faith Formation and Director of Liturgy
  - ii. Speakers (priests)
  - iii. Facility space
  - iv. Materials to engage reflection on the Mass and other aspects of Liturgy
  - v. Formed.org

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**Encourage Greater Mass Participation of Faith Formation Families**

- a. *Description:* To encourage families to attend Sunday Mass every week.
- b. *Time Frame:* 3 years
- c. *Objectives:*
  - i. Collaborate with the Director of Liturgy on ways to engage people more at Mass (i.e. a particular CCF class responsible for something at the Mass) and after Mass
  - ii. Provide opportunities for CCF Families to attend Mass in tandem with CCF classes
  - iii. Provide more opportunities for the CCF children to grow in intimacy with Jesus in the sacraments (Reconciliation services and adoration)
- d. *Measures of Performance:* Increased participation of CCF families at Mass
- e. *Resources Required:*
  - i. Director of Liturgy and Director of Faith Formation
  - ii. Church and Chapel
  - iii. Priests

**Solidify Sacramental Preparation**

- a. *Description:* Evaluate current sacramental preparation with the goal to bring greater unity of message and consistency to all of our sacraments.
- b. *Time Frame:* 1 year (ongoing)
- c. *Objectives:*
  - i. Meet with the Director of Liturgy, Coordinators of Faith Formation, and school representatives to evaluate all current sacramental preparation and discern how to bring greater unity and consistency.
- d. *Measure of Performance:* Less ambiguity and more structure and procedures for our sacraments
- e. *Resources Required:*
  - i. Director of Liturgy
  - ii. Director of Faith Formation
  - iii. Coordinators of Faith Formation
  - iv. School representatives
  - v. Priests?

**Formative Education**

**Implement “Through the Eyes of Faith”**

- a. *Description:* Provide opportunities for adult parishioners to come together and discuss current events and what our Church teaches us about them. This could take the format of a speaker series.
- b. *Time Frame:* 1– 3 years
- c. *Objectives:*
  - i. Determine the current issues to encounter

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- ii. Schedule throughout the year (monthly at most; maybe better to start it seasonally)
- iii. Secure speakers
- iv. Advertise
- d. *Measure of Performance:* 1<sup>st</sup> year- 25 people
- e. *Resources Required:*
  - i. Coordinator
  - ii. Facility space
  - iii. Speaker stipends
  - iv. Materials for discussion
  - v. Refreshments

**Re-introduce Women Bible Study**

- a. *Description:* Host a bible study for women to come together and study scripture (similar to our Men's Bible Study)
- b. *Time Frame:* 1- 3 years
- c. *Objectives:*
  - i. Determine if this is a need of the parish via the parish survey.
  - ii. If it is, recruit a facilitator to lead the study.
  - iii. Train facilitator
  - iv. Advertise the opportunity
- d. *Measures of Performance:* 10+ people served on a regular basis
- e. *Resource Requirements:*
  - i. Coordinator
  - ii. Facilitator
  - iii. Facility space to meet
  - iv. Refreshments
  - v. Materials

**Expand CGS Sessions**

- a. *Description:* Provide more Catechesis of the Good Shepherd sessions to accommodate the growing request for this method of formation.
- b. *Time Frame:* 1-3 years
- c. *Objectives:*
  - i. Host a Level I Formation course to train more catechists
  - ii. Recruit parishioners to attend the course mentioned above
  - iii. Offer more sessions of CGS, especially after school
  - iv. Collaborate with the School about the possibilities of the Kindergartners accessing time in the Atrium (the room where CGS takes place)
- d. *Measures of Performance:* Added sessions every year and increase in the number of trained parishioners
- e. *Resources Required:*
  - i. Coordinator

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- ii. CGS materials
- iii. Atrium space
- iv. Level I Formation Leader
- v. Trained CGS catechists

*Note:* We currently have a waitlist and there are more people every year calling to inquire about this method of formation.

**Expand Parent/ Married Couples Formation**

- a. *Description:* Offer continued and varied formation for parents and married couples.
- b. *Time Frame:* 1-3 years
- c. *Objectives:*
  - i. Continue to host Fabulous Families of Faith (monthly gatherings of parents during Saturday morning CCF sessions)
  - ii. Continue to engage parents in sacramental catechesis during the sacramental preparation years of their children
  - iii. Continue to host parent meetings for CCF/CGS sessions
  - iv. Continue to host the Love and Respect Marriage Enrichment series.
  - v. Connect with the future Parish Service Events and Diocesan opportunities
  - vi. Provide more formation and support for married couples (potentially a seasonal date night)
- d. *Measure of Performance:* Positive feedback and yearly increased attendance.
- e. *Resources Required:*
  - i. Coordinator of programs
  - ii. Facility space
  - iii. Babysitters
  - iv. Speakers
  - v. Refreshments

**Experiential Formation**

**Re-introduce Small Faith Sharing Groups**

- a. *Description:* Groups of 6-10 people who meet to share their faith with one another, possibly with a focus on neighborhoods.
- b. *Time Frame:* 1-5 years
- c. *Objectives:*
  - i. Meet with interested parishioners to determine the direction they think would be best for our parish

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- a. These groups could center around the Sunday readings, or we could use a program such as Christ Renews His Parish.
- b. We could also have a variety of small groups with different focuses and timeframes. One small group could focus on *Living Your Strengths*.
- ii. Train facilitators
- iii. Host interest/discernment meetings (advertise well)
- iv. Connect interested parishioners with facilitators
  - v. Determine where small groups will meet
  - vi. Engage small groups in larger group gatherings
- d. *Measure of Performance*: By year 3- 7 active small groups
- e. *Resources Required*:
  - i. Coordinator/ Facilitator trainer
  - ii. Facility space to meet
  - iii. Materials for small groups to use in their reflections

**Conduct OLGC Parish Wide Service Events**

- a. *Description*: Engage OLGC parishioners in a hands on activity along with formation in the Catholic Social teaching at hand.
- b. *Time Frame*: 1-3 years
- c. *Objectives*:
  - i. Connect and collaborate with Director of Development and the Friday Morning Service Events that are already in place
  - ii. Collaborate with the Coordinator of Social Justice
  - iii. Research projects to complete.
  - iv. Schedule events throughout the year.
  - v. Advertise throughout the parish.
- d. *Measure of Performance*: 1<sup>st</sup> year- 10+ Families participation
- e. *Resources Required*:
  - i. Coordinator
  - ii. Facility space
  - iii. Money/ donations to complete service
  - iv. Catholic Social Teaching
  - v. Advertisement

**Offer More Retreat Opportunities**

- a. *Description*: Provide more opportunities for retreats throughout the year.
- b. *Time Frame*: 1-3 years
- c. *Objectives*:
  - i. Meet with interested parties to discern what they are looking for in retreat opportunities. Are they looking for overnight? Mornings of Reflection?
  - ii. Design opportunities or find ones in the area that we can connect parishioners to

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- iii. Advertise the opportunities, including Live Jesus and Loyola on the Potomac, which we currently support
- d. *Measure of Performance:* Attendance grows as people take advantage of the opportunities.
- e. *Resources Required:*
  - i. Coordinator
  - ii. Facility space
  - iii. Retreat materials/speakers

### **Develop Young Adults/Professionals Ministry**

- a. *Description:* Invite those parishioners in their 20s and 30s to join in fellowship, prayer, and service and connect them with parish life.
- b. *Time Frame:* 1-5 years
- c. *Objectives:*
  - i. Establish where this ministry falls in the life of the parish
  - ii. Recruit a dynamic leader or couple to coordinate
  - iii. Rename and remarket (Young Professionals?)
  - iv. Design and host a variety of opportunities such as service, spirituality, social, etc.
  - v. Connect the young adults of the parish to each other and to the parish at large
  - vi. Establish a blog/chat room via our website to connect the young adults of the parish
- d. *Measure of Performance:* A dynamic group of 30+ regular participants by the 3<sup>rd</sup> year
- e. *Resource Requirements:*
  - i. Dynamic leader
  - ii. Facility space
  - iii. Advertisement materials
  - iv. Website

### **Youth Ministry**

\*We have seen much success and growth in the past couple years. Continued working strategies along with these additions are to be expected for the coming year.

### **Expand Jr High Program**

- a. *Time Frame:* 1 year
- b. *Objectives:*
  - i. More social outings per month (off and on campus)
  - ii. Continue current format that leads into high school program (parents have applauded the “seamless transition.”/ continue to foster the great relationship with CCF and youth ministry)

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- iii. Offer an end of/beginning of year evening for adults to see what they can expect in High School Youth Ministry
- c. *Measure of Performance:* Attendance, feedback, growth following year in HSYM
- d. *Resources Required:* DeSales Hall/Gym

**Continue Growth for High School Program**

- a. *Objectives:*
  - i. Keep empowering teens through student leadership and responsibility to take ownership of programs.
  - ii. Continuing our “Youth Groupings” (Hello Scripture, Jammin With Jesus, Theater Group)
  - iii. Continue the social media communication that has been successful for keeping teens and parents updated and engaged
- b. *Measure of Performance:* Attendance for all areas, feedback from teens parents, end of year survey
- c. *Resources Required:* Space, DeSales Hall, Gym, Youth Room, Classroom A, social media

**Start “JP Tuesdays”**

- a. *Description:* Theology of the Body high school course that takes place once a month/two times per month.
- b. *Time Frame:* 1 year
- c. *Objectives:*
  - i. Set up schedule
  - ii. Review material
  - iii. Create promotions
  - iv. Write up parent letter with information about these classes
- d. *Measure of Performance:* Attendance- 10 teens, feedback
- e. *Resources Required:* Space (Classroom A/Youth Room)

**Start a College Student Ministry**

- a. *Description:* Create a community for OLGC Youth Ministry alumni to stay connected to OLGC and Youth Ministry. Through this, they will know what is going on with the parish when they visit, what events they can attend in Youth Ministry, special outings just for the college students, and a way to eventually filter them into the Young Professionals/Adults group.
- b. *Time Frame:* 1 year
- c. *Objectives:*
  - i. Bring some college aged advisors on to help structure a format for keeping in contact and welcoming those college alumni back to OLGC events.

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- ii. Create social media/Web page for college students to stay engaged.
  - iii. Offer youth ministry Nightlife invitations for evenings appropriate for college and high school students
  - iv. Have events during college breaks and during the semester for local NOVA students.
  - v. Keep students involved in assisting with liturgy through invitation of youth ministry
  - vi. Have college students help lead with some Jr. High Events
  - vii. Offer this as a transition into the young professional/adult group when they turn 21
- d. *Measure of Performance:* Feedback, social media presence and interaction, attendance in alumni events.
- e. *Resources Required:* Coordination with Youth Ministry, Coordinator, College Representatives for each school, share part of YM budget for finances

**Establish a Youth Mass**

- a. *Description:* Once a month have a teen led mass for the 5:30pm mass time on Sundays. Teens will lead music, lector, servers, usher, bring up gifts
- b. *Time Frame:* 1 year
- c. *Objectives:* \
  - i. Schedule the year for which week the mass will fall on,
  - ii. Organize the musicians, lectors, servers, gift bearers,
  - iii. Advertise through youth board leaders at their respective schools
- d. *Measure of Performance:* Feedback, amount of teens helping with liturgy, attendance in youth at mass
- e. *Resources Required:* Guidance of Music Director, Space for practice, access to music catalogue, ability to get proper song licensing, close alignment with director of liturgy

**Expand Youth Ministry Gym/Field Day (Name TBD)**

- a. *Description:* Once a month have a teens meet up for sport activity/competition (volleyball, basketball, paintball, soccer, etc) at OLG/off campus. This can be included with an ecumenical flair to have fitness and fellowship with other faith denominations.
- b. *Time Frame:* 1 year
- c. *Objectives:*
  - i. Create a once a month sport and location
  - ii. Create Name
  - iii. Make Promotions
  - iv. Schedule with other groups
  - v. Advertise at Nightlife, Bulletin, other avenues



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- d. *Measure of Performance:* Feedback, attendance (16 teens), and participation with other denominations/churches (2 Catholic, 2 other)
- e. *Resources Required:* Space, sporting equipment

**Future Application Ideas (2-5 years) determine if these are needed/possible**

- 1. **Smaller Mission trips to other countries.** Teens have been attending with other churches/schools for this outreach.
- 2. **Student Representatives on Youth Board for Hispanic, Fil Am communities**

**Other Faith Formation Initiatives**

**Create A Plan For Faith Formation Opportunities That Weave Throughout the Generations**

- a. *Description:* Get to know our parishioners and demographics better and discern how to weave our faith formation opportunities throughout the generations that focus on meeting needs, rather than providing a high quantity of opportunities that are not necessarily meeting a need. We do not need to offer the same opportunities every year and need to allow for an ebb and flow of opportunities depending on what the needs are.
- b. *Time Frame:* 1 year
- c. *Objectives:*
  - i. Create a survey to discern how best to provide for the faith formation and spiritual needs of the people
  - ii. Continue to meet with the Faith Formation staff to discern direction of Faith Formation and opportunities to provide
  - iii. Continue to evaluate programs on a regular basis to ensure that they are meeting needs
  - iv. Weave in Salesian Spirituality throughout our faith formation
- d. *Measure of Performance:* Increased attendance of programs and people continuing in faith formation opportunities throughout the generations.
- e. *Resources Required:*
  - i. Survey platform
  - ii. Faith Formation Staff

**Increase Promotion of Faith Formation Opportunities**

- a. *Description:* Provide better communication of the faith formation opportunities that are available.
- b. *Time Frame:* 1 year
- c. *Objectives:*

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- i. Ensure parish website calendar is accurate and post more website announcements
- ii. Explore more methods of communication (social media, new technology, etc.)
- iii. If possible, have more announcements at Mass
- iv. Keep Narthex posters up to date
- v. Continue to provide brochures with opportunities
- d. *Measures of Performance:* Increased participation in faith formation opportunities.
- e. *Resources Required:*
  - i. Parish Website
  - ii. Bulletin
  - iii. Social Media
  - iv. Email
  - v. Posters for Narthex
  - vi. Paper for brochures

**Establish Spanish Community Catechesis**

- a. *Description:* Provide catechesis for those in our Spanish community and integrate this community more into the life of our parish community.
- b. *Time Frame:* 1- 3 years
- c. *Objectives:*
  - i. Meet with Fr. Hillyard and representatives of the Spanish Community to discern the best way to move forward.
  - ii. Coordinate catechetical opportunities for adults and children.
  - iii. Recruit catechists who can serve this community well (ideally bilingual catechists)
  - iv. Advertise catechetical opportunities in Spanish
  - v. Build an inclusive community that focuses on OLGC as one community
- d. *Measure of Performance:* The establishment of catechetical opportunities in Spanish and the increase of participation of those in our Spanish community in our parish wide events.
- e. *Resources Required:*
  - i. Coordinator of Spanish Catechesis
  - ii. Bilingual catechists
  - iii. Classroom space
  - iv. Bilingual materials for the children
  - v. Catechetical materials for adults

**Provide Additional Catechist Collaboration/ Formation**

- a. *Description:* Continue to discern how best to serve our catechists and provide support and formation for them.
- b. *Time Frame:* Ongoing

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- c. *Objectives:*
  - i. Establish an online platform for catechists to be able to post their favorite lesson plans (best practices/ bag of tricks for behavioral management) to share with other catechists and school religion teachers
  - ii. Continue to encourage relationships between the novice catechists and the more seasoned.
  - iii. Continue to host opportunities for catechists and religion teachers to come together and talk about their needs, etc.
  - iv. Encourage the use of Formed.org as a resource (match up programs with grade level topics)
  - v. Continue to connect catechists to Diocesan opportunities for formation
- d. Measure of Performance: Greater communication between catechists and teachers. Increased participation in formational events.
- e. *Resources Required:*
  - i. Coordinator
  - ii. School administration and teachers
  - iii. Mentors
  - iv. Formed.org
  - v. FindingGod.com
  - vi. Website platform to share lesson plans

*Note:* Catechists meet at the beginning of the year for formation and orientation. The Coordinator of Children's Faith Formation connects the catechists of the various grade levels and there is a lead catechist for every grade level assigned to serve as a mentor. FindingGod.com provides online resources for the catechists of grades K-6. Catechists also share lesson plans via email with the Coordinator and their grade level team. The Coordinator meets with each grade level team at least twice a year. We have also been working with St. Mark's and St. John Neumann to offer seasonal evenings of reflection.

**Increase our Ability to Serve Those With Special Needs In Our Community**

- a. *Description:* To continually discern how we can better serve the children and adults with special needs in our community
- b. *Time Frame:* 1- 3 years
- c. *Objectives:*
  - i. Meet with interested parties to discern the best way to move forward
  - ii. Continue to work with families on a one-on-one basis and connect them with our current faith formation programs if possible
  - iii. For those who are not able to participate in faith formation, help connect families with materials to work with at home and/or work with the Special Needs Respite Ministry to provide some faith formation on an appropriate level
  - iv. Collaborate with the Director of Liturgy to provide for the liturgical and sacramental needs of this community.

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- v. Continue to support the Special Needs Respite Ministry
- d. *Measures of Performance:* An increase in opportunities for those with special needs
- e. *Resources Required:*
  - i. Director of Faith Formation and Director of Liturgy
  - ii. Chapel and Church
  - iii. Facility space for programs and events
  - iv. Special needs materials
  - v. Priests

**Incorporate Salesian Spirituality Throughout Faith Formation**

- a. *Description:* Discern ways to better incorporate Salesian charism, history, spirituality, etc. into our faith formation opportunities.
- b. *Time Frame:* 1 year (ongoing)
- c. *Objectives:*
  - i. Host a workshop for catechists to explore Salesian Spirituality and how to incorporate it into faith formation sessions.
  - ii. Encourage study on Salesian saints
  - iii. Have the children learn the Direction of Intention and Live Jesus prayers and engage them with discussion on what these prayers mean.
  - iv. Continue to invite Faith Formation families to participate in the Salesian talks and Live Jesus.
  - v. Have a St. Francis de Sales Day at CCF.
  - vi. Incorporate more quotes from St. Francis de Sales and St. Jane de Chantal into newsletters, parent gatherings, etc.
  - vii. Host a Praise and Worship Night with reflection on Salesian spirituality.
  - viii. Encourage exploration of self, gifts, talents, etc. in order to be who you are and to be that well.
- d. *Measures of Performance:* An increase in knowledge of St. Francis de Sales and Salesian spirituality amongst the community
- e. *Resources Required:*
  - i. Oblates of St. Francis de Sales
  - ii. Materials on St. Francis de Sales and Salesian Spirituality
  - iii. Space

**Cross Mission Activity**

**Establish Preschool Family Faith Mixer**

*Description:* This event will serve as an opportunity for families with children of preschool age to gather in fellowship and participate in activities surrounding the Liturgical year in an effort to establish community amongst young families and

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engage them more in the life of the parish. This event will take place in between the 9:30 am and 11:15 am Masses once a month.

*Time Frame:* 1 year

*Objectives:*

- a. Find a facilitator.
- b. Schedule gatherings based on the Liturgical year.
- c. Gather materials.
- d. Invite families to participate.
- e. Advertise.

*Measure of Performance:* 10 regular families participating by the end of the first year

*Resources Required:*

- a. Facilitator (Mary Briody)
- b. Director of Liturgy, Director of Faith Formation, Community Organizer
- c. Activity materials
- d. Counsel Room