

2019-2020 -2021

# St. John Baptist de La Salle & St. Mary, Our Lady of Lourdes

Parish Pastoral Plan



Parish Pastoral Council  
ST. JOHN BAPTIST DE LA SALLE  
ST. MARY, OUR LADY OF LOURDES

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## Pastors Introduction

November 2019

Dear parishioners,  
Grace and peace to you!

In the Gospels we hear how Jesus would often gather people to listen to his teaching, to encounter through him God's love and mercy, and to be formed as his disciples. Those disciples, united in word, sacrament, and service became the vehicle for his message of salvation to go out to all the world, right down to our own day. They have always lived as part of a body, the wider church within smaller Christian communities – a parish, but even a family, a ministry, or organization, where the faith is learned, lived, and shared.

**With excitement and joy I present to you this pastoral plan for our parish communities**, which is the fruit of over a year's work of our pastoral council. Last year, under the leadership of Fr. Efren, the pastoral council was reconstituted and began a process of formation and of visioning for our partner parishes. This process included listening sessions and a first parish assembly. From those events, data was distilled, and the pastoral council worked hard over many meetings and two workshops to formulate goals and objectives over the last several months. I am grateful for the many hours that they have put into this process to bring us to this point. I arrived late on the scene this summer and continued working with the Council to finalize this plan. **From all of the feedback from parishioners, four goals/areas for development became clear: 1. Liturgy and Eucharist 2. Transparent Communication 3. Formation of the whole person and 4. Evangelization.**

Below you will find our parish pastoral plan which enunciate these four goals, and a number of objectives to realize the goals which will be implemented over the next years. **In order to make the plan a success, we need your help and participation so that we can more effectively bring people to Jesus, grow in our own faith and build his kingdom in our communities.** Each of us brings unique gifts and talents to be shared in the Body of Christ. Please consider how you can help to bring to life the pastoral plan by offering your talents to realize one or more of our goals.

In Christ,

Fr. Dan



## Mission Statement

We, the partner parishes of Saint John Baptist de La Salle and Saint Mary, Our Lady of Lourdes of the Diocese of Greensburg, celebrate our Roman Catholic Faith and Traditions. Our parish families strive to respond to our baptismal promises by living the Word of God and making the Eucharist the center of our lives. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we dedicate ourselves to be witnesses of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all our brothers and sisters.

## Goals and Objectives

Goals are statements of **WHAT** the parish wants to achieve in the next 3-5 years. Objectives specify **HOW** a goal will be achieved by stating what is to be done, by whom, and by when.

### Goal #1 LITURGY & EUCHARIST

We the partner parishes of Saint John Baptist de La Salle and Saint Mary Our Lady of Lourdes will create a greater spiritual bond with God, one another and visitors by placing greater value on the holy Mass and commit to a renewal of our Catholic traditions by developing more opportunities for all stages of family life that enrich relationships bringing Christ closer into our lives.

*(related to essential element of WORSHIP)*

#### Objective #1

Provide resources describing the parts of the mass to be handed out as parishioners and visitors arrive to Mass to better understand the sacrifice of the Mass and the need for reverence. This should be aligned to other content included in the liturgy and the bulletin.

#### Objective #2

Father addresses the serious need of liturgical ministers using the pulpit, bulletin, and other means to encourage more youth and adults to participate in the mass, such as lectors, cantors, sacristans, etc. Have the current ministers invite new people into their ministries.

#### Objective #3

Host ministry-wide and/or individual ministry evenings of reflection, fellowship and formation to build community, form ministers, and update records.

#### Objective #4

Have a member of a ministry deliver a witness talk once per month at Sunday liturgy. Have them share their passion with the congregation, tell them about their ministry, and ask for volunteers. Have this align to a resource handout (objective 1).

### Goal #2 TRANSPARENT COMMUNICATION

We the partner parishes of Saint John Baptist de La Salle and Saint Mary Our Lady of Lourdes, strive to overly and openly communicate direct and accurate information about our parish, our ministries and activities, and the love of Jesus Christ to our parish community and the community at large.

*(related to essential element of STEWARDSHIP and LEADERSHIP)*



#### Objective #1

To provide weekly updates via the bulletin, our website, Facebook and all available media on the happenings of the many ministries of our parish and their role in the foundational seven elements of parish life (Word, Worship, Community, Service, Stewardship, Leadership, and Evangelization).

#### Objective #2

Document all partner parish ministries, how they fit into the organizational structure of the church, who the leaders/coordinators are and list of current members of each ministry.

#### Objective #3

Provide Financial updates “Did you know...” section in bulletin.

#### Objective #4

Create a process to explain when and how we as leaders share information (ministry updates, council updates, guests at meetings, etc.).

#### Objective #5

Document or review and update all ministry requirements (one pager) such as quarterly meetings, weekly service, diocesan requirements, trainings and “what to do”, etc.

### Goal #3 FORMATION

We the partner parishes of Saint John Baptist de La Salle and Saint Mary Our Lady of Lourdes will provide opportunities for lifelong discipleship through continuing formation of the whole person from baptism, childhood, to youth, and through adulthood.

*(related to essential element of WORD)*

#### Objective #1

To begin to build a well-structured, vibrant, participatory, faith formation and youth ministry with strong resources to establish fellowship, involvement, and a strong relationship to traditional Church doctrine.

#### Objective #2

Hold ongoing adult educational activities (i.e. bible study, faith series, etc.) including some that encourage intergenerational learning and synchronized content.

#### Objective #3

To identify, develop, and publicize a list of human, print, and online material resources (e.g. ministry fair, links to online education, parish lending library, etc.) to help explore our Catholic faith.

#### Objective #4

Organize a faith formation committee to assist in the implementation of the above objectives and vision for future needs.

### Goal #4 EVANGELIZATION

We the partner parishes of Saint John Baptist de La Salle and Saint Mary Our Lady of Lourdes will build a faith community where evangelization (sharing our faith) is at the core of all that we do.

*(related to essential element of COMMUNITY)*



Objective #1

Develop a Social committee who will create, plan, and execute opportunities for fellowship, intergenerational activities, and social events.

Objective #2

Hold parish wide assembly consisting of all parishioners, staff, finance, pastoral, and ministry leaders, to share graces, and to talk about what's important, where we are at, where we want to go.

Objective #3

Father to continue "Get to know you listen sessions" to discern parishioner concerns in the format of past, present, future.

Objective #4

Create a community committee to take advantage of participating in community events to show and grow the love of our Churches in Export and Delmont. Identify festivals, activities, events (secular or religious) where we can participate, show our presence, and evangelize the beauty of our Catholic faith.



