

# St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Parish Pastoral Plan

## Mission Statement

**Led by the Holy Spirit, rooted in the Eucharist, St. Thomas the Apostle Parish strives to be an inclusive servant community — *to be Christ in the World*. We bear the Good News of God's unconditional love to all generations through worship, faith formation, witness, and service.**

## Goals

1. “Go...and make disciples...” (Matthew 28). Claim the Great Commission by **deepening and furthering efforts at evangelizing**
  - Youth and young adults
  - Inactive and alienated Catholics
  - Those seeking a deeper faith and relationship with Christ
  - Those who would be candidates for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults
2. Significantly **increase “full, conscious, and active participation”** of all parishioners in our liturgical, sacramental life, ministries, and spiritual renewal activities.
3. **Improve communications and visibility** to better identify and serve the spiritual and corporal needs of The People of God.
4. **Engage in the ongoing spiritual formation** of children and adults by initiating a process of intergenerational catechesis that encompasses all aspects of our Catholic faith including increasing awareness of
  - Our call to mature in discipleship as baptized Christians
  - Our responsibility as stewards of each other, our earth, and all God's gifts
  - The application of Catholic ethics, Social teachings and Scripture
5. Become a more inclusive, reconciling community, **witnessing the connection between parish and secular life** through small faith communities, neighborhood groups, ecumenical activities, and social events.
6. **Reach out to others in need** with the unconditional love of Jesus
  - By fostering physical, spiritual, and emotional healing
  - By being active in local, national, and international social justice issues
7. Ensure that every person will have a specific and ongoing experience of being **invited, welcomed, and nurtured** into the faith life of St. Thomas parish, especially young adults, students, single adults, the transient, the mentally/physically challenged, elderly, lonely, and those who feel separated from the Church for any reason.
8. **Serve as effective stewards of our financial resources** by developing and maintaining a parish budget that is aligned with our mission, parish plan, and goals which
  - Provides for the continued effectiveness of the parish staff, facilities and programs
  - Ensures that all major parish initiatives are tied to funding sources through rigorous financial planning

# **St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Parish**

## **Founders Vision Statement**

***WE, THE PEOPLE OF ST. THOMAS, ARE GATHERED TOGETHER  
BY GOD AS A CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF FAITH.***

- We are challenged to accept God as the heart and center of our lives.
- We are the Body of Christ by our Baptism, members of one another.
- We believe each life is sacred, each person gifted by God.
- We value diversity in our midst.
- We try to discern the Spirit's direction by prayer and by listening to the wisdom of all.
- We share our lives in laughter, at times in tears, enjoying the goodness of one another.
- We are a community of fragile human beings, often in need of forgiveness and healing.
- We gather in worship around the Lord Jesus to lift our hearts, minds and voices in praise, to be nourished by God to renew the bonds of community.
- We take time to pray together and support one another whenever we meet for ministry.
- We are an open, welcoming Christian community, reaching out to others, sharing the Good News, inviting people to join us on the journey.

***WE ARE CALLED BY JESUS TO CONTINUE HIS MISSION  
IN OUR PLACE AND TIME.***

- God sends the Holy Spirit to dwell in our hearts, charging us to proclaim God's love by our actions and words.
- We are called to be servants – Good Samaritans, foot-washers like Jesus.
- We are called to live simply, as Jesus lived, sharing our time and resources with those in need, promoting God's kingdom of justice and peace.
- Each of us is empowered and co-responsible for carrying out the mission of our parish.

