

# Our Lady of Fatima Pastoral Plan 2014-2018

## MISSION

At Our Lady of Fatima, our mission is to:

- KNOW GOD** in and through the eyes of our parish community;
- LOVE GOD** through our worship and outreach;
- SERVE GOD** through the offering of our time, talent, and treasure.

## VISION

Within the guidance of our Lord and the focus of our mission, we seek:

- To provide a vibrant, Spirit-filled place of worship
- To increase the participation and enhance the experience of our parishioners in worship;
- To reach out to those in need as the Spirit leads us

## PRIORITIES

In coordination with the Joy Made Complete Diocesan Pastoral Plan, we make a commitment as the Catholic Church in Eastern Washington:

**Priority One:** To devote ourselves to the teaching of the apostles by improving faith formation and leadership development;

**Priority Two:** To devote ourselves to our communal life by developing our parish and school communities to be more welcoming and give special attention to youth, young adults, and families;

**Priority Three:** To devote ourselves to the breaking of the bread and prayer through liturgical renewal that reflects authentic discipleship and stewardship; and

**Priority Four:** To devote ourselves to the outreach in service, ecumenism, and evangelization by sharing goods with those in need through social outreach, sharing the good news through evangelization, and building bridges through ecumenical/interfaith dialogue.

# FIVE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS

## 1. WORSHIP

**Goal:** To answer God's call to revere Him, through enhancing the participatory experiences of our liturgy.

Objective 1: Make liturgical music vibrant and familiar so that all may join in singing.

Action (2015-2016): Appoint a small group to research models and review music in the red book. Get input from choir and make recommendations to the pastor.

Objective 2: Offer more support for Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Servers, and Hospitality Ministers.

Action (2014-2018): Establish periodic in-services to keep ministers knowledgeable of their roles and responsibilities.

Action (2014-2018): Promote enrollment of additional ministers or services where there are not enough to adequately cover the schedule.

Objective 3: Establish a parish liturgical committee.

Action (2015-2016): Recruit 5 people to be a part of the committee.

## 2. FAITH FORMATION/EDUCATION

**Goal:** To encourage and assist all Fatima parishioners to know God and His teachings.

Objective 1: Form and participate in Catholicism study groups, scripture study groups, and prayer groups.

Action (2014-2018): Suggest themes that follow the yearly priorities in the Joy Made Complete Diocesan Pastoral Plan.

Action (2014-2015): Begin the Called and Gifted Program.

Action (2014-2015): For existing groups, provide support as requested for promotion (new members) and for resource materials to assist them in their meetings.

Action (2015-2016): For new groups, educate parishioners on purpose and function of each type of group and what resources are available (books, study guide, etc.) to assist in their meetings.

Action (2017-2018): Integrate social justice projects and respect life issues in catechetical programs.

Objective 2: Schedule Advent and Lenten adult mission.

2015: Theme- Intentional Discipleship and Faith Formation

2016: Theme- Family Life

2017: Theme- Reconciliation and/or Stewardship

2018: Theme- Social Justice, Charity, Christian Unity, and Intentional Discipleship

Objective 3: Explore options for educating our children in the catholic faith.

Action (2014-2015): Review the effectiveness of the parish catechetical program and make recommendations to the diocese about the need to reestablish a diocesan office for religious education and/or training program for catechists.

Action (2015-2018): Set up and train catechists who will instruct children.

Action (2015-2018): Continue the Vacation Bible School.

Objective 4: Rebuild a youth group.

Action (2014-2018): Promote youth participation in Vocare and Quo Vadis.

Action (2015-2018): Encourage parish youth to attend diocesan youth events and rallies.

### **3. OUTREACH/SERVICE**

**Goal:** Love our neighbor and reach out to those in need.

Objective 1: Develop or partner with support groups for families trying to cope with difficult social needs.

Action (2017-2018): Identify needs of the parish and devise an effort to reach out to them.

Action (2017-2018): Identify existing resources in the community to meet the needs of our parish community.

Action (2017-2018) Publish a listing of outreach services in order to connect with families in need.

Objective 2: Hold quarterly Parish Hall meetings in conjunction with parish potlucks or meals.

Action (2014-2018): Pastor, Chair of Parish Council and Chair of Finance Committee develop the agenda.

1. Parish issues/needs/celebrations

2. Progress toward accomplishing Pastoral Plan

3. Financial position of Parish and explanation of financial needs

4. The parishioners' voices

Objective 3: Update the parish directory.

Action (2014-2015): Form a committee and create a photo directory.

Objective 4: Update the parish database.

Action (2014-2018): Identify additional information to be collected.

Action (2014-2018): Seek volunteers with time and expertise to gather and input information.

### **4. STEWARDSHIP**

**Goal:** Stewardship requires us to assure the financial health of the parish and make best use of its resources.

Objective 1: Develop a capital budget.

Action (2014-2015): Prioritize needs and create a timeline for completion of each project.

Action (2015-2016): Fully inform parishioners of the need and cost for each project.

Objective 2: Increase donations to the parish to meet our stewardship goals.

Action (2015-2016): Determine ways to reach those who currently do not contribute.

Action (2015-2016): Encourage all parishioners to increase their donations.

Action (2014-2018): Make full and effective disclosure of financial needs to all members of the parish.

Objective 3: Incorporate All Saints School.

- Action (2017-2018): Persuade partners from St. Peter and St. Ann parishes to the need and benefits of incorporation.  
Action (2017-2018): Inform parishioners of Our Lady of Fatima of the need and benefits of incorporating the school.  
Action (2017-2018): Complete requirements.  
Action (2017-2018): Recruit a board of directors.

## 5. EVANGELIZATION

**Goal:** Encourage all parishioners to lead others to a relationship with God.

**Objective:** To reflect God by the way we live and serve others.

- Action (2014-2018): Each parishioner thoughtfully discerns how to best use his/her time, talent and treasure in support of parish ministries and social activities or other charitable endeavors.  
Action (2014-2018): Hold a Stewardship Sunday; encourage parishioners to testify about how stewardship is a way of life.  
Action (2015-2016): Seek to bring back inactive Catholics.  
Action (2017-2018): Invite others to join you in various parish functions.

# ADDENDUM

## IMPLEMENTING THE PLAN

A plan is only words on a paper until there is a commitment and dedication by all involved to make it come alive. To make that happen for our parish, it will mean:

1. Committing ourselves as parishioners and leaders to take up the hard work with both dedication and charity to explore new ways of being parish and diocese so that others may come to know the joy of the Gospel;
2. Calling forth courageous and visionary leadership, lay and ordained;
3. Stepping out into unknown and largely uncharted territory and trusting each other to share responsibility and ownership for the church;
4. Developing life-giving relationships between lay and ordained members and valuing accountability, collaboration and mutual respect for the gifts of others;
5. Moving from maintenance to mission; and
6. Responding with our personal “yes” to the question: “**Are you ready to do this?**”

In his pastoral letter Joy Made Complete, Bishop Cupich challenges each of us to make a commitment to:

1. Read his pastoral letter and follow-up articles in the Inland Register;
2. Read the scripture readings of the day or a passage of the Bible daily;
3. Give time and prayerful consideration to taking a leadership position in the parish or becoming involved in one of the parish's ministries;
4. Commit to attending at least one of the religious education sessions each year;
5. Participate in meeting the parish stewardship needs.

This journey starts with one first step. For each of us that one step might be different. It might be small. It might not seem very significant. But go ahead and do it. Together those small steps will be very significant. They will be the start we need to move from maintaining the "status quo" toward carrying out our mission to know, love, and serve God.