

Saint Rita Mission Statement

"We the people of Saint Rita Catholic Church, striving to be a welcoming and inviting community, are nourished by the Sacraments of God's Word. We accept our mission to proclaim Jesus as Lord to all those who come from near and far. We reach out and respond to others in need and celebrate life and love in Jesus' name."

The parish discerned the following goals and objectives during the planning process in the summer of 2006. These were developed under the guidance and leadership of Father Tom Collins and the Saint Rita Parish Pastoral Council during the Assembly Days and through polling the parishioners. The hope is that all these objectives shall be met by the summer of 2008.

GOAL #1: Develop programs to teach all parishioners to have a loving, working, knowledge of the Bible

1. To identify and train 6 group leaders to implement 6 bible-based small faith-sharing groups during Lent and Advent.
2. To invite qualified speakers to teach a biblical topic during Wednesday Spirit Night
3. To teach children in Religious Education using the Bible as the primary resource.

GOAL #2: Increase ministry and participation of teens

1. To incorporate service projects (nursing home visitation, Caring & Sharing, blood drives) as an integral part of the youth ministry program.
2. To develop a curriculum that will attract youth group member that will be effective in retaining them and teaching them the faith.
3. To develop the resources to fund a full-time youth minister.

GOAL #3: Create and implement a comprehensive plan to welcome and integrate new members

1. To organize a quarterly newcomer welcoming event.
2. To strengthen our Welcoming Committee to 6 members who will make direct personal contact with new parish members within 1 month of their registration.
3. To reach out to those persons who come to St. Rita periodically but have not yet registered and also to those who no longer attend church.

GOAL #4: Increase volunteerism in Christian outreach programs (e.g. Caring and Sharing, Habitat for Humanity, etc.)

1. To conduct an annual Stewardship Fair with booths for all parish ministries.
2. To sponsor a Habitat for Humanity house from St. Rita.
3. To formalize a bereavement committee to assist those with the loss of a loved one.
4. To highlight a parish ministry each quarter through bulletin inserts, St. Rita web site, and pulpit announcements.

GOAL #5: Develop spiritual growth and on-going conversion through retreats and missions

1. To plan and implement an annual week-long mission at St. Rita.
2. To promote and enhance Eucharistic Adoration.
3. To invite the Charismatic Prayer Group to conduct a "Life in the Spirit" seminar.
4. To survey other spiritual groups in the region for an inventory of retreats and publish and promote these retreats.

GOAL #6: Enhance and increase effective communication (e.g. web site, parish newspaper, etc.)

1. To create a new parish directory.
2. To have Fr. Tom brief parishioners after all Masses on the status of the Building On Our Faith campaign and plans for future facilities.
3. To publish an annual report on the state of the parish.

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