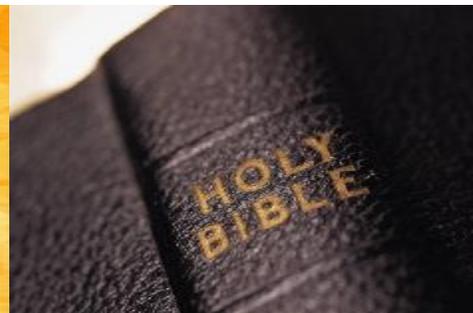
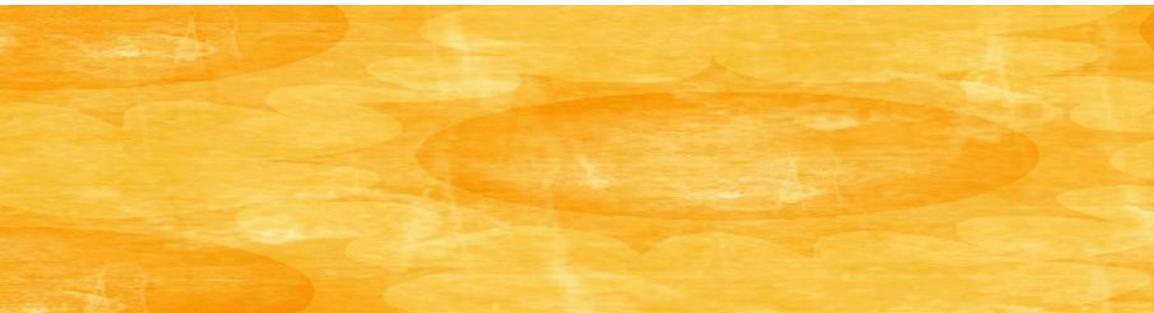




# ST. PETRONILLE PARISH LONG RANGE PASTORAL PLAN

Spring 2014—Updated Fall 2016

*As disciples of Jesus Christ, we are called to pray, to love, to serve, to forgive and to teach His Word to all people.*



## I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### A. Purpose

At the request of Father Jim, Parish Staff and Parish Council spent the past several months developing a long-range pastoral plan for the parish. The purpose of the plan is to take the feedback from parishioners, lay ministers and staff to chart a course for the parish for the next 4-5 years. It is to bring focus those areas of parish life that need attention and to help all grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. It is the goal of these leadership groups to see that the plan is communicated effectively to the parish, and that the plan will serve as a broad guideline for the annual planning process.

### B. Overview of the Long Range Pastoral Planning Process

In June of 2013, Fr. Jim and the parish staff met for the annual Staff Days Retreat. Unlike previous years, this year-end gathering was focused on a discussion of a popular book, *Rebuilt*, written by Fr. Michael White and his pastoral associate. It is about their efforts at a Catholic church in Maryland to turn around the direction of the parish. Excited and moved by the Holy Spirit, the St. Petronille staff decided to share the book and its message with Parish Council and other leadership bodies of St. Petronille Parish.

As the discussions continued throughout the fall, the staff listened to these leadership groups also reading the book. In these discussions we agreed that St. Petronille is not the same parish it was just 10 years ago. The parish is changing because the lives of our parishioners are changing. Moved by the Holy Spirit, we felt the timing was right to begin to develop a long-range pastoral plan for St. Petronille.

In January of 2014, the Parish Staff participated in a day-long session where we discussed the vision and mission of St. Petronille. We discussed the demographics of our parish—who is it that we serve.

We reviewed what it is we are called to provide—our mission:

- ***Encounters with the living Christ through the Sacraments*** of the Church
- Spiritual enrichment opportunities to inspire and challenge all to ***grow in a personal relationship*** (prayer life) with God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit
- Faith enrichment opportunities to inspire and challenge all to ***grow in knowledge*** of our shared Catholic faith.
- A sense of ***welcoming and hospitality*** for all who enter.
- Challenge each other to live and express our Catholic faith through ***compassionate service*** to those in need.

In response to past parish surveys and financial plans (Aug 2005 and Nov 2012 and the 2013 Springboard to the Future Strategic Plan) as well as conversations with parishioners, lists were generated that included what everyone felt was working well, and what wasn't. We expressed hopes and dreams for the parish as well as our concerns. We asked the questions..."What if? and "Why not?" After our work was done, Father Jim asked Parish Council to have the same discussion at their January meeting. The two lists were consolidated and common themes emerged.

A Joint Leadership Meeting with Parish Council and Parish Staff in early February resulted in the development of long-range goals based on those themes, as well as the corresponding objectives to achieve those goals. Some goals are near term (upcoming 1-3 years) and longer (upcoming 4-5 years).

## II. COMMON THEMES

The common themes generated through this consolidation are listed below. No one is more important than another. Instead, each area serves as one of three building blocks where we will focus to strengthen St. Petronille. Each are interrelated and we feel success in one will help foster success in other areas.

- Build ***Community***, make St. Petronille a welcoming home for all
- Improve the ***Sunday*** experience
- Revitalize current ***Communication*** methods with the parish and research opportunities for new methods

### III. CALLED TO PRAY

**Goal: Provide a weekend worship experience that meets the scheduling needs of the parish and in the process, more efficiently utilizes the liturgical (clergy and support ministries), as well as the structural resources (parking & church) of our facility.**

- Objective: Develop a plan to evaluate the current weekend Mass schedule, including the monthly 6pm Mass, and submit a recommendation to Father Jim based on findings.

**COMPLETED**   ▪ Timeline: In Progress (Spring 2014)  
                          ▪ Owner (s): Eric Rasmussen and Worship Commission

**Goal: Grow parishioner participation in the weekend liturgies**

- Objective: Research new hymnal and missal options that allow for an expanded song selections from the current offering and work with the development office to secure funding.

**COMPLETED**   ▪ Timeline: in process  
                          ▪ Owner (s): Eric Rasmussen and Worship Commission

- Objective: Increase the number of new Liturgical and Music ministers
  - Timeline: Fall 2014 through 2017
  - Owners (s): Eric Rasmussen & Worship Commission

**Goal: Provide parishioners with homilies that consistently demonstrate how God's word is relevant and meaningful to their lives.**

- Objective: Formulate recommendations for clergy on how to better connect scripture to the lives of all parishioners.
- Objective: Develop a plan to establish a Homily Advisory Team for the clergy and how it will be utilized.
  - Timeline: 2016-2018
  - Owner: Deacon Ron Yurcus

#### IV. CALLED TO LOVE

**Goal: Expand efforts to create a welcoming environment for all parishioners and visitors.**

- Objective: Develop a plan to provide coffee/tea/juice in the PLC narthex after all Sunday Masses.
  - Timeline: Fall 2015
  - Owner: Mary Miller, Diane Makowski, Karen O'Brien
  
- Objective: Develop a plan to have a member of Parish Council or Parish Staff available in the PLC narthex after all Sunday Masses to answer questions.  
*This has been revised by staff—the group that is hosting the Sunday “Grab-N-Go” Coffee and juice after 9:30 mass will be available to field questions from parishioners.*
  - Timeline: TBD
  - Owner: TBD (see above)
  
- Objective: Establish a Martha Ministry that will provide parish hospitality for milestone events (Retirements, ordinations, sacraments, anniversaries)
  - Timeline: In progress
  - Owner: Cathy Kuczynski
  
- Objective: Re-establish the weekend Greeter Ministry so it is sustainable.
  - Timeline: TBD
  - Owner: Eric Rasmussen and Deacon John
  
- Objective: Change the opening remarks at weekend Masses to include a *genuine* welcome to all, especially visitors, announce the celebrant, and recognize any special groups or happenings during that liturgy.
  - Timeline: Fall 2015
  - Owner: Eric Rasmussen and Deacon John

**Goal: Renew efforts to welcome new households and parishioners into the parish**

- Objective: Evaluate the role of the Welcoming Committee and the New Parishioner Meeting process. Review the information packet for content improvement opportunities.
  - Timeline: TBD
  - Owner: TBD
  
- Objective: Develop and implement a gift discernment process for new parishioners that allows them to grow as disciples.
  - Timeline: TBD
  - Owner: TBD

- Objective: Add a new section in the bulletin that includes names and photos of new households/parishioners
  - Timeline: TBD
  - Owner: Paula Barnett (?)

## V. CALLED TO TEACH

### Goal: Enhance Parish Communications

- Objective: Re-design parish *website* to allow it to be added to or updated by the various ministries, including new links to other Catholic resources
  - Timeline: **January 2016 (RV)**
  - Owner: Paula Barnett
- Objective: Reformat and refresh our weekly *bulletin* to make it easier to read and reference
 

**COMPLETED**

  - Timeline: April 2015
  - Owner: Paula Barnett
- Objective: Ensure there is a Pastor's letter, or clergy reflection, in the bulletin each week.
  - Timeline: TBD
  - Owner: Deacon John Spiezio
- Objective: Purchase outdoor signage for in front of church that prominently displays Mass schedule
  - Timeline: **In process (RV)**
  - Owners: Worship (Patricia Weiner & Chuck D'Alessio)
- Objective: Research/recommend solution/cost options for software & hardware for one or more internal monitor displays for gathering areas. (e.g. scrolling screen for Mass Times, Events, Parish Life, Photos, etc.).
 

**COMPLETED**

  - Timeline: March 2015
  - Owner: Jim Anderson
- Objective: Research/recommend user friendly "*apps*" and social media *applications* that could improve our outreach to today's electronic generation.
  - Timeline: **March 2016 (RV)**
  - Owner(s): TBD

## VI. CONCLUSION

The Long Range Pastoral Plan is intended to be a living document, and will be updated annually as St Petronille and grows in living out our mission as disciples of Jesus Christ. It began as a response to parish surveys and excitement over a book, but it was developed with the guidance of the Holy Spirit. This plan will assist the Parish Staff in its annual planning and budgeting that occurs each spring, and will help chart a course for the future of St. Petronille.