

Saugus CATHOLICS



TWO PARISHES, ONE FOCUS ON CHRIST



Saugus Catholics Collaborative Pastoral Plan, Draft

June 1, 2016



June, 2016

His Eminence, Sean Cardinal O'Malley, OFM Cap.
Pastoral Center Archdiocese of Boston
66 Brooks Drive
Braintree, Mass 02184

Your Eminence;

It is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that we present to you the Pastoral Plan for the Catholic Community of Saugus. The plan not only represents the hard work of many faith-filled and dedicated people, but it is also putting flesh on the letterhead which has become our logo: "Two parishes, One focus on Christ." We are very grateful for the hard work of the writing team and for the able assistance of representatives of the Pastoral Center and the Catholic Leadership Institute in putting this plan together. We feel this pastoral plan represents who we are and where we would like to be in three years. Since Phase II became operative, we have made definite strides in coming together as a Catholic Community. With the implementation of this plan, we hope to rise to new levels, awakening to a life of faith a segment of the community who is not actively participating in Church life at this time.

The Catholic Community of Saugus recognizes the challenge before us, but is willing to embrace it that we may become a dynamic, vibrant, faith-filled entity in the town of Saugus.

Humbly we ask your prayers and blessings for us and upon our Pastoral Plan.

Sincerely in the Lord,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Timothy J. Kelleher". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Rev. Timothy J. Kelleher

Pastor

Collaborative Purpose: Why do we exist?

Romans 10:14-15

“For ‘everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’ How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher? How will they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, ‘HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO BRING GOOD NEWS OF GOOD THINGS!’”

The Saugus Catholics collaborative is two unique parishes working together with one focus on Jesus Christ. We exist to spread the good news of our salvation through Jesus and to help each other and all our brothers and sisters accept God’s immeasurable love for us all. We do this by coming together to worship, by celebrating God’s sacraments, by evangelizing through our service to others and by fostering a faith community where all are welcome.

Our Collaborative Values: How do we behave?

1 John 1:7

“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.”

Authenticity Rooted in God

We live our lives authentically in word and action. We do what we say.

- *We actively support parishioner spiritual growth in the home.*
- *We invite all parishioners, whether new or of long standing, to live lives rooted in the teachings of the Gospels and to bring the love of Jesus into all aspects of our lives.*

Our Collaborative Values (cont.)

Commitment to Walking in Faith

We strive to be faithful to our baptismal call and we affirm our confirmation commitment. We endeavor to grow in the image of Christ by witnessing to His compassion, love, understanding, forgiveness, justice and mercy.

- *We promote Church teachings to all generations of our collaborative.*
- *We step forward for the most fragile members of our community – the unborn, the physically or socially disadvantaged, and the strangers among us.*
- *We foster an awareness of both the issues facing our youth and the resources available to them.*
- *We seek to continuously strengthen our relationship with God.*

Surrender: “He must increase, I must decrease” (John 3:30)

We listen, accepting and living the will of the Father regardless of our own desires.

- *We are welcoming.*
- *We put the needs of the marginalized and alienated ahead of our own.*
- *We turn in prayer to the Holy Spirit for guidance and inspiration whereby we let go of our own wants and needs to live our lives in a community centered on Christ.*

Our Collaborative Vision: Where do we want to be in five years?

Pope Francis, January 6, 2014

“Wake up the world! Be witness of a different way of doing things, of acting, of living! It is possible to live differently in this world. You cannot bring home the frontier, but you have to live on the border and be audacious.”

Our Collaborative Vision is a vibrant Catholic faith community, with participation of all ages, and welcoming all people. It includes an active youth ministry program, adult faith formation, praise and worship at Liturgy, spiritual and social activities, outreach programs to the Saugus community and beyond. We also see opportunities for evangelization through witnessing, promoting vocations to the priesthood and religious life, handicap access at both church buildings, and becoming more visible to the local community through our actions and through traditional and social media. Each of the initiatives described in this plan will include its own communications plan, as part of the implementation.

Our Collaborative Priorities: What will we accomplish in the next twelve to thirty-six months?

Priority 1: Form intentional disciples

Evangelii Gaudium

“102. Lay people are, put simply, the vast majority of the people of God. The minority – ordained ministers – are at their service. There has been a growing awareness of the identity and mission of the laity in the Church. We can count on many lay persons, although still not nearly enough, who have a deeply-rooted sense of community and great fidelity to the tasks of charity, catechesis and the celebration of the faith. At the same time, a clear awareness of this responsibility of the laity, grounded in their baptism and confirmation, does not appear in the same way in all places. In some cases, it is because lay persons have not been given the formation needed to take on important responsibilities...”

When we consider that our purpose is to help each other, and in fact, all our brothers and sisters, accept the reality of God’s immeasurable love for each of us, we realize that we cannot accomplish this unless we establish a strong core group of intentional disciples. We know from our research that we already have a larger than average group who feel that our Collaborative is helping them to move from being practicing Catholics to being disciples. A much larger group is confident that Scripture is the Word of God, and a truly amazing percent of our parishioners indicated that they spend regular time in personal prayer, at least weekly. According to the available research, these are the drivers for parishioners to move along the spectrum to become intentional disciples. Given these profiles, we believe it is very possible to develop this core group and to work with them to bring our values of authenticity, commitment and surrender into the broader Collaborative faith community.

Steps to Achieve This Priority:

Goal: Develop ongoing Adult Faith Formation, defining and answering our Baptismal call

Scott Morin, Youth Minister, Saugus Catholics

“In my experience, once people really meet Jesus, they don’t leave. He has them.”

- Present web-based programs which are offered by various organizations, for example, Ascension Press, Lighthouse Catholic Media, and Renew International, with the intention of developing and deepening individual parishioners' knowledge of God. Each session is expected to attract twenty to twenty-five parishioners and the cost of the software rights will be approximately \$1,500. Projected start date for the first session is March, 2016.

Goal: Provide our parishioners with the tools they need to witness confidently to their Faith.

Joe Johnson, Parishioner, Saugus Catholics

“We know that we have many parishioners who spend a lot of time in daily prayer. We need to teach them how to witness openly, in the community.”

- By the Fall of 2016, plan and facilitate eight intergenerational gatherings following the annual Grade Masses for Grades 1 through 6, and Opening Nights for Grades 7 through 10. The adults will experience witness talks, while the young people will participate in educational and fun activities. The total cost for refreshments, audio visual equipment and handout materials for all eight gatherings will be approximately \$500.
 - Invite input and assistance from the Office of Lifelong Faith Formation and Parish Support on how to assist parishioners in polishing their skills in witnessing.
 - Offer parishioners the opportunity to attend a workshop on how to share their personal witness stories. The collaborative will pick up the cost of the workshops estimated at \$1,000.
- Build programs that will enable us to meet people right where they are spiritually
 - Our first program will be a faith-based support group for our large group of grandparents who are serving as primary caregivers for their grandchildren.
 - We will develop a survey to identify these people and their needs. The cost of the survey will be approximately \$250.
 - We will follow the survey with at least one focus group to assist us in determining how to best assist with their needs.

Goal: Create opportunities for people to live out their faith.

Kathy Sullivan, Parishioner, Saugus Catholics

“People need to have the chance to learn from each other what it means to be Catholic. I’ve known people who really believe they are good Catholics because they would never, ever miss Mass on either Christmas or Easter.”

- Expand the existing grade level Masses.
 - A pre-selected month will be made available for each grade level to attend a liturgy for both Saint Margaret and Blessed Sacrament children and families. This will begin in the Spring and Fall of 2016.
- Invite and train our youth to participate in liturgical roles such as Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers, Music Ministry, and Altar Servers by 2018.
- Train and commission twenty new Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers by 2018. This number includes the young people above.
- Invite and train twenty new altar servers, eight at St. Margaret and twelve and Blessed Sacrament, by 2018.

Priority 2: Construct an organized program of New Evangelization and Outreach to three specific audiences: non-participatory Catholics, people of other faith traditions, and people who have no connection to any faith tradition.

Pope Francis, “A Big Heart Open to God”

“Instead of being just a church that welcomes and receives by keeping the doors open, let us try also to be a church that finds new roads, that is able to step outside itself and go to those who do not attend Mass, to those who have quit or are different. The ones who quit sometimes do it for reasons that, if properly understood and assessed, can lead to a return. But that takes audacity and courage.”

As we move forward with giving our current parishioners the tools they need to go from practicing Catholics to intentional disciples, we also will be reaching out to other members of the community. In particular, we will seek to re-engage Catholics who are not currently with us. Referring back to our research, we can infer that many of these folks are younger than our present parishioners, and we understand that this can be a difficult group to reach and motivate. An important aspect of this priority is giving our parishioners the tools they need to be effective witnesses to the Gospel. Our Collaborative vision provides that we be welcoming and open to all age groups, and that we reach out in word and service to the local Saugus community.

Steps to Achieve This Priority:

Goal: We will reach out particularly to non-participatory Catholics, many of whom are parents of our own Religious Education students.

Donna Zinna, Religious Education Coordinator, Blessed Sacrament Parish

“Many of our parents are really afraid to evangelize their own children. They don’t know how. We need to give them the tools to do this.”

- By the Spring of 2017, we will plan and execute three community-based outreach events in order to evangelize non-church members.
 - Invite local youth athletes, musicians, performers, singers, etc. to a Collaborative sponsored event to support these town groups. The events will not be held at either parish. For example, a blessing of the sports team

at the field with free food and drinks at the beginning of a sports season. The estimated cost for each of these events is \$500 or \$1,500 total.

Goal: We will reach out to non-church members by familiarizing these people with our Collaborative and our Catholic beliefs and traditions.

- By the Fall of 2017, we will develop a series of listening/learning sessions, based on the “Theology on Tap” series. For example, Coffee with the Clergy or Pints with the Pastor. They will be held off-site, and after office hours. These will be low key events, opportunities for people to meet the staff. Some may have specific topics, others will be unstructured, just a listening opportunity for participants. The estimated total cost of these events is approximately \$1,000.
- Also by the Fall of 2017, we will create four seasonal welcome events for local residents. The purpose of the event is to introduce the Collaborative to those who may not be aware of it, and to invite participation. We hope to attract twenty to thirty attendees at each function at an estimated cost of \$500 per function or \$2,000 total.
 - In the Summer of 2017, we will produce a mailing to all Saugus households, inviting people to meet us and register in one of our parishes. The mailing will be in advance of the events with an estimated cost of \$400.
 - The events will be structured in a way that will make them accessible to all segments of our society, for example:
 - At least one event will be scheduled during the daytime, at which we would expect to see seniors and younger people who may work part time.
 - At least one event will be scheduled in the evening, where we would expect to reach working people.

Goal: We will establish a social justice initiative.

Stephen Colbert, Catholic Media Personality

“If this is going to be a Christian nation that doesn’t help the poor, either we have to pretend that Jesus is just as selfish as we are or we’ve got to acknowledge that he commanded us to love the poor and serve the needy without condition. And then admit that we just don’t want to do it.”

Anna Swain, Parishioner, Saugus Catholics

“The best way to evangelize to the local Saugus community is through the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy. This is what we are all about.”

- In 2016, we will create a Collaborative Social Justice Committee that can extend our outreach into the local community, beyond what we are currently doing with our St. Vincent de Paul Society and our St. Stephen Ministry. Both of those organizations function on the local parish level.

Goal: Hire a full time Ministry Manager who can develop programs for lay people to minister in the Collaborative.

Fr. Tim Kelleher, Pastor, Saugus Catholics

“I see a future where lay people are the face of the service side of the Church, leaving the priests responsible for the sacramental functions.”

- By the Spring of 2017, we will hire a Ministry Manager to oversee the implementation of all our existing ministries, and also the establishment of any new ministries that we want to create.
- An important role for the Ministry Manager will be to empower the laity to create evangelization and outreach initiatives.

Priority 3: Promote Vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood

Matthew 4: 18-22

“As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew, casting a net into the sea; they were fishermen. He said to them, “Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men.” At once they left their nets and followed him. He walked along from there and saw two other brothers, James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They were in a boat, with their father Zebedee, mending their nets. He called them, and immediately they left their boat and their father and followed him.”

Pope Francis, “A Big Heart Open to God”

“How are we treating the people of God? I dream of a Church that is a mother and shepherdess. The church’s ministers must be merciful, take responsibility for the people, and accompany them, like the good Samaritan, who washes, cleans and raises up his neighbor.”

True to our vision statement, we will develop a purposeful program to encourage our parishioners to discern and realize their vocations. Although we acknowledge that God calls different individuals to different vocations, the emphasis within this priority is on vocations to the Diocesan priesthood. Promoting vocations flows naturally from our purpose of spreading the Gospel, and also from our Collaborative values, which include commitment and surrender to the will of God.

Goal: We will develop a prayer initiative for Vocations

Paul Lacerda, Parishioner, Saugus Catholics

“We have to demonstrate to our lay people the idea that Vocations to the priesthood is something that is up to them, too. They just see it as someone else’s responsibility.”

- By the Fall of 2016, we will initiate a Prayer for Vocations during each weekend Liturgy. The estimated cost of laminated prayer cards in pews is \$400.

- Again by Fall of 2016, we will have in place a Vocations Committee of six to ten members.
 - The committee will establish an annual multi-generational event for Vocation Awareness, for example:
 - A bike ride through town for Vocations, with a concurrent Holy Hour for those who don't participate in the ride. We will recruit about thirty participants for this ride, and the Holy Hour. The estimated cost per event is \$1,000 including advertising, refreshments, permits, etc.
 - The committee will create a lesson plan for Grades 5 and up in our Religious Ed program. The lessons will be completely focused on vocations, and will be in place by Lent of 2018. The estimated cost for books & pamphlets is \$750.

Goal: We will create a Vocation awareness program to keep vocations top of mind among our parishioners.

Paul Cacciola, Parishioner, Saugus Catholics

“The challenge is to get people to see that the priesthood is really a desirable way of life. Right now, it doesn't seem as if they think it is.”

- We will create a campaign to raise awareness of the World Day of Prayer for Vocations in April of 2017.
 - The program will include a “slogan contest” for children, prior to the actual Day of Prayer.
 - We will host a Collaborative-level event for all age groups that is themed to Vocations. Like the slogan contest, the event will be timed to coincide with the World Day of Prayer for Vocations with an estimated cost of \$500.

Plan Overview

Priority	2016	2017	2018
Form Intentional Disciples	Develop Ongoing Adult Faith Formation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use existing web-based programs to develop and deepen parishioners' knowledge of God. 	Provide our parishioners with the tools they need to witness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intergenerational gatherings Programs to meet people where they are spiritually 	Create opportunities for people to live out their faith <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand the existing Grade Level Masses Train our youth to become Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers Increase the number of adult Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers Increase the number of Altar Servers
Evangelization and Outreach to Three Audiences	Outreach to non-church members <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listening/learning sessions Community-based outreach events 	Hire a Ministry Manager with the intention of increasing the involvement of lay people in our ministries	
	Outreach to non-participatory Catholics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community-based outreach events 		
	Social Justice Initiative		
Diocesan Priesthood	Develop a Prayer Initiative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prayer for Vocations Vocation Awareness Committee 	Vocation Awareness Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creation of a Multi-generational Event 	Vocation Oriented Lesson Plan in our Religious Ed Program