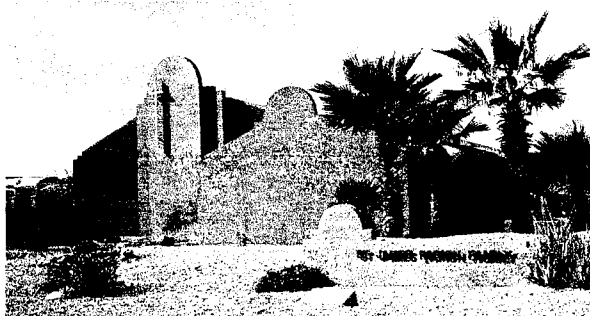


# St James Parish Pastoral Council

## Parish Plan

2009-2012



### **Mission Statement for the Diocese of Phoenix**

Because of our Baptism, the Holy Spirit calls us, the people of The Roman Catholic Church of Phoenix, to conversion as we come together to be nourished in the Eucharist, proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ, and serve the needs of all God's people.

To be faithful to our baptismal call and our tradition, we accept the challenge to:

Build a prayerful community which welcomes and celebrates our cultural diversity;

Reach out actively and invite all, without prejudice, to experience the love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ;

And distribute justly our resources with the poor and share with each other the gifts God has given to us.

### **Mission Statement for the St. James Parish Family**

St. James Parish Family is called to be an open and welcoming Christ-centered community, seeking through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, nourishment of the Eucharist, and grace of the Sacraments, the spiritual growth which moves us beyond ourselves to the service of others.

### **Mission Statement for the St. James Pastoral Parish Council**

We are a Christ-centered body called by the Holy Spirit to represent the St. James Parish Family, support its ministries, plan for the future and advise the pastor in parish pastoral planning.

The Parish Pastoral Council is a representative body of parishioners who volunteered to serve our parish family whose purpose is as follows: to foster a community of prayer, leadership, service and pastoral action; advise the pastor on parish policy; foster good communication; clarify parish vision; establish goals; and evaluate the needs of the community. Responsibilities of the Parish Pastoral Council include priority setting and planning. The Council is a think tank. Members of the Council are directed to dream about the future of the parish. New possibilities are sought and new visions proclaimed.

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In 2005 the Parish council obtained a workbook called "Revisoning the Parish Pastoral Council" and began to work at understanding the changes that Vatican II implemented which affected the guidelines for a Parish council. After several fits and starts, along with membership changes, we were finally able to spend enough time together over the course of 20 months to understand the proposed redirect and use it to develop a plan for our wonderful parish family. The plan is based on the following seven elements which form the essence of parish life: Evangelization; Worship; Word; Community; Service; Stewardship; and Leadership. The plan is by design a living document which will be adjusted as required as our parish changes and grows. The following goals are 3-5 year plans and the objectives are to be met within the next year to help us attain the goals. We will continue to develop Goals and Objectives while providing the leadership to see that the existing Goals and Objectives are being worked. You will see that we are on track for most of our objectives but we have fallen behind on one or two. Our Goals and some Objectives aligned with those Goals are as follows:

### Goal 1

**To develop responsible lay leadership in the parish by encouraging all members to share their gifts. (Stewardship and Service)**

#### Objective 1

We will complete a time and talents survey of our parishioners. The survey is to be provided along with the parish poll. The parish poll and surveys will be sent out and returned completed by Easter of this year. (completed)

#### Objective 2

We will initiate a ministry congress providing an improved communication capability amongst ministries. Each ministry will be asked to provide a representative for this congress. The congress will determine the appropriate meeting timing with a minimum of one per quarter. This will be implemented no later than August 2009. (Note: we are behind schedule on this but we are committed to implementing this very soon)

#### Objective 3

We will update the "Welcome Book", re-name it A Directory of Parish Organizations and Ministries and make it parish council's responsibility to keep this resource up to date and readily available. We will accomplish a first pass by March 15<sup>th</sup> 2009 (completed on time). We will follow up by communicating the availability of this book to the parish as soon as the final update is complete and that is to be no later than the end of March (completed). In addition to printed copies we will also provide this booklet online on our web site in a pdf format.

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### Goal 2

**To introduce a program of outreach to the inactive of our parish (Evangelization)**

#### **Objective 1**

To develop systems of communication with the shut-ins of our parish by the end of February 2010

#### **Objective 2**

To identify the inactive of our parish by January 31<sup>st</sup> 2010

#### **Objective 3**

To survey the inactive of our parish to obtain the reason for their lack of participation by July 15<sup>th</sup> 2010

### Goal 3

**To increase by 25% the members of our faith family who participate in the ministries and activities of our parish (Stewardship)**

#### **Objective 1**

To develop a parish directory (names, addresses, phone numbers pictures?) by end of the first quarter of 2010

#### **Objective 2**

We plan to utilize and man a booth at our parish festival. The intent of the booth would be to invite people to join ministries and to encourage non-parishioners to join our parish. This will be an objective for at least this year's Festival and depending on results probably become a standard for future Festivals. (completed this year and ongoing in the future)

#### **Objective 3**

To initiate a program to support the physically and/or mentally challenged individuals in our parish by September 15<sup>th</sup> of 2009 Note: we are behind schedule on this but we are committed to doing this as soon as we can find another coordinator. The individual who was interested in coordination of this effort is too busy with scout activities.

#### **Objective 4**

To provide child care during masses, Generations of Faith, meetings and parish events by March 15<sup>th</sup> 2009 (Dependant on the decision concerning the nursery) (Nursery being used during the 09:00 mass and the coordinator is working on getting volunteers for the remainder)