

**PASTORAL PLAN**  
**Corpus Christi Parish, Council Bluffs, Carter Lake, IA**  
August 12, 2017

**Mission**

To be the light of Christ shining in the heart of the community.

**Vision**

To be a vibrant and inspirational Catholic faith community growing in lifelong prayer, sharing the joy of the Gospel, and committed to evangelization, education and loving service to those in need.

**Values**

To be a welcoming, caring and inclusive faith community rooted in peace, justice, and respect for all beings.

**Introduction**

The Pastoral plan is developed by the parish council in consultation with the Finance Council based on our mission and vision.

**5 Parish Priorities**

**Priority I(Prayer)** – To build upon the power of community and individual prayer within the parish community for spiritual growth

The following objectives will help the Parish address Priority 1.

Objective 1-1: Form a Committee to establish Collective prayer and Perpetual Adoration for personal spiritual growth

- Provide prayer pledge cards quarterly to parishioners to encourage personal prayer, perhaps devotion to the Sacred Heart or cultivate the Apostleship of Prayer
- Continue to collectively pray the Parish Mission Prayer at the beginning of each Mass to move parish in the direction of its mission
- Promote community praying of the rosary before each mass and in the family
- Long Term Goal – Strategic Building Committee establish a space for Perpetual Adoration/ Side Chapel for daily Masses/possible "Baby Care room" for weekend liturgy

**Priority 2 (Evangelization)** –To share the shining light of Christ in our community through the strength and coordination of the parish ministries

The following objectives will help the Parish address Priority 2.

Objective 2-1: Establish a “Return to Mass” effort to assist with outreach to parishioners who are not attending Mass regularly

- Begin with a letter in early Fall 2017 inviting lapsed parishioners back to Mass, include a Hispanic letter as well with an appeal of increased services
- Have a “call night” to invite lapsed parishioners back to Mass with a target of mid-Fall 2017. Call all parishioners.
- Begin visitation to parishioners in late Fall early Winter 2017 with baskets and information about Corpus Christi Parish and our efforts and desire to welcome them back.
- Currently we have 1442 registered parishioners with 383 Hispanic families and quite a number of them are not regular to weekend Mass and we need to reach out to them and update the parish census.
- Establish Hispanic Community parish registration
- Establish an email data base to improve digital communication and outreach

Objective 2-2: Establish a dynamic Youth Ministry

- Form a search committee with Brenda Flores, Joe Narmi, Jill Faust, Deacon Darwin, and Young Adults to identify a Dynamic Youth Director to design and support ministry to the Young Adults.
- Hire a qualified Director of Youth Ministry by January 2018 if funding can be found
- Collaborating with St. Albert School with youth activities
- A new multi-purpose meeting room would be available for youth and youth ministry including computer space and a place for evening movies( Strategic Building Committee)
- Identify the young adult population, the Millennials,19-35 years group, for outreach

Objective 2-3: Launch a World Mission Outreach via a Sister Parish Partnership

- Sister City Parish Summit Group continues to work on this.

Objective 2-4: Expand Ministry to Hispanic Community

- Begin a Hispanic missionary outreach with the 300 Hispanic families in Carter Lake inviting them to attend a mass service in August 2017.
- As a long term goal develop Hispanic leadership in Corpus Christi Parish

**Priority 3 (Education)** – To provide for the faith formation education needs of all Corpus Christi parishioners at every stage of life and age

The following objectives will help the Parish address Priority 3.

Objective 3-1: Implement a regularly supported schedule of Bible studies

- Include Facebook Live or Periscope options on some of the Bible studies
- Provide a multi-purpose space for Bible Study (Strategic Building Committee)

Objective 3-2: Provide a dedicated library space for the Parish (Strategic Building Committee)

Objective 3-3: Reinstate the Parish annual book gift and accompany it with a book study schedule

- Begin with the book "The Mass" in December 2017 (Those who have Amazon Prime can download on their Kindle for free)
- Seek possible sponsors for funding the book purchase
- Establish a book study of "The Mass" in January 2018

Objective 3-4: Work to establish small groups for learning and faith sharing

- Have 10 groups implemented by Advent
- Long term goal of 30 active groups meeting on a regular basis by 3<sup>rd</sup> year.

Objective 3-5: Enhance K-12 Faith Formation with recruitment and training of Catechists

**Priority 4 (Gospel Joy)** – To invite all to share in the joy of the Liturgy, keeping the Eucharist as the center of a vibrant and prayerful celebration of the presence of Christ with us and in us

The following objectives will help the Parish address Priority 4.

Objective 4-1: Enhancements to Liturgies and Parish Identity

- Create a welcoming gathering space at Queen of Apostles Site (Strategic Building Committee needs to look into a larger Narthex at Queen's Site).
- Continue with and refine the welcome messages for Corpus Christi Parish, keeping Corpus Christi as the unifying name of who we are
- Change the name of Queen of Apostles Church to "Corpus Christi Church" to be done as soon as possible and change the name of other two locations, to Corpus Christi Chapel (Holy Family) and Corpus Christi Chapel (Our Lady of Carter Lake)
- Hang banners outside and inside identifying the Church sites as Corpus Christi.
- Seek to install Corpus Christi Parish Signs on Broadway

Continued objectives to help the Parish address Priority 4

- Establish videoprojection system for music and responses as part of the Liturgy
- Continue to improve the music during the Weekend Liturgy
- Plan Weekend Masses tuned to needs of different generations
- Move the tabernacle at Queens to the Altar platform
- Possible incorporation of a "Baby Care" area where babies and small children can be taken to help reduce distractions during the celebration of the mass.

Objective 4-2: Consolidate the liturgies with a revised Mass schedule in the fall to facilitate fuller churches and allow more time between services.

**Priority 5 (Service)** –To give loving service and charity to those in need, living the message of Christ, *to love one another, As I have loved you actively in the greater community.*

The following objectives will help the Parish address Priority 5.

Objective 5-1: Provide helpful and welcoming class offerings to the community at large

Objective 5-2: Promote Peace and Social Justice:

- Support Projects to overcome the issues of Poverty, Hunger, Racial Conflicts, and Caring for Common Home, Health and life (based on Pope Francis' Encyclicals, *Evangelii Gaudium*, and *Laudato Si*).
- Collaboration with Knights of Columbus, Catholic Daughters, Rosary Society and other supporting organizations to build a vibrant parish community.

Addendum

- Request the Finance Council to do a Financial Strategic planning to enhance financial stewardship of the whole parish community and align the budget to the Pastoral Plan.
- Entrust the Strategic Building Committee to align the capital improvement needs to the Pastoral Master Plan by taking into account the existing building plans for additional meeting spaces, new parish office and larger gathering space.