

## **Parish Mission and Vision Update - September 4, 2021**

**Two updates that don't apply to specific points in the mission and vision plan.**

**Deacon Randy Hearn will be our new Finance Manager beginning the first week of October. He comes with extensive experience and will be a huge asset to the staff and the parish as a whole.**

**The search for a new Director of Evangelization and Formation (new title) is underway. We have a strong candidate already awaiting an initial interview.**

### **Encounter #2- Aligned Activities**

-Activities beginning this month: Discovering Christ, RCIA, Xavier Kids, Xavier Teens, Invitation to Personal Prayer, St. Joseph Consecration groups (English and Spanish). All aligned towards Encounter, Grow, Go.

### **Encounter #3- Entry Points**

-Discovering Christ begins Tuesday. RCIA begins Tuesday as well. The first 7 weeks of RCIA is Discovering Christ.

### **Encounter #6- Intercessors of Saint Francis Xavier**

Our first attempt at putting together the Intercessors of Saint Francis Xavier fell short of expectation. We plan to try again this Fall.

### **Encounter #7- Confessions**

With school in session, many more Confession opportunities are available through St. John Catholic Student Center along with the hours we regularly offer. Students and parishioners take advantage of both places.

### **Grow #2**

-Invitation to Personal Prayer, St. Joseph Consecration groups, Cursillo, CCO small groups, and the next Spanish catechesis theme will all be GROW opportunities for the fall.

### **Grow #5- Adult Catechesis in Spanish**

-Via Deacon Tom Cabeen- "As a bit of history, starting the first week of October 2020 we did a 10-week consideration of the Catholic Faith, which lasted until the week before Christmas. Then, in January and February, we did a consideration of the Sacraments, using the Word on Fire videos. Then we took a break during Lent and part of the Easter Season. In June, we started a 12-week course, Genesis to Jesus, Scott Hahn's overview of the covenants and how the Old Testament supports the New. That is what we will finish this Friday."

## **Go #2- Welcoming the Poor**

The "Love Thy Neighbor" initiative put in place last Spring is bearing fruit. The Mother Teresa Ministry is helping dozens of people each month. They saw their highest demand ever in the month of August.

We are working with Catholic Charities of Eastern Oklahoma to help settle 25-50 individuals and families from Afghanistan.

## **Go #3- Stillwater Catholic Charities**

Local efforts led by parishioner Mike FitzGerald continue to offer ESL and GED classes.

Afghanistan resettlement efforts are being led by Mike FitzGerald.

## **Go #6- Use of Media**

We continue to livestream two Sunday Masses (11:15 and 1pm). We record many classes and talks to make them available on social media and our SoundCloud account. Sunday homilies are available on SoundCloud, Facebook, and YouTube. Pastors of Payne podcast and radio show continues to reach 500-700 people a week. Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram followers continue to rise.

## **Go #8- RCIA**

Discovering Christ will begin RCIA on September 7th. Six individuals are signed up with more expected. Priests are working with others in various stages of becoming Catholic. Particularly several older individuals will not be going through RCIA but will be coming Catholic soon. This also includes those who have been away from the Catholic faith of their youth.

## **Building #2- Stained Glass Windows**

The stained glass window project didn't make much progress this summer. We're having difficulty finding a company who can do both the quality of work we demand and also the size of the project. Covid has prevented an Italian company from visiting us to make a presentation.

## **Building #4- Catholic School**

Father O'Brien is putting together a committee to begin to explore the idea of a Catholic school for our parish. A meeting hasn't happened yet because Fr. O'Brien has not put it together due to more pressing concerns of Covid and hiring staff. A first meeting is expected soon.

