

Parish Pastoral Plan
St. Ambrose, St. Ignatius, and St. James

GOAL TWO: Foster and strengthen a vibrant community
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Objective 1. Increase efforts to encourage parishioners to become involved in parish life.

Action Steps:

- a. Schedule a yearly "Invite a Friend" meeting to encourage members to participate in ministry or service they are involved in.
- b. Explore ways to use technology in engaging people including updating a user-friendly website that includes links to St. Ambrose and St. Ignatius.
- c. Provide Homilies on the web-site.
- d. St. James and St. Ignatius. Explore use of close-circuit TV for overflow masses.
- e. Institute a program with intentional outreach to non-practicing Catholics and provide training to the committee.
- f. Offer training to homebound and hospital ministers.

Objective 2. Provide effective communication about parish ministries, activities, and events.

Action Steps:

- a. Advertise events using bulletin, school packets, altar announcements, e-mails, and website.
- b. Request that the KC's and St. Vincent de Paul to regularly publicize their activities and services.
- c. Continue to send weekly bulletin to shut-ins and nursing home residents.
- d. St. Ambrose. Parish Council members take turns monthly to make announcements at Mass.
- e. Expand "One Call" to all three parishes.
- f. St. Ambrose and St. Ignatius: Make Parish Council minutes available to parishioners.
- g. E-mail reminder of worship ministries for each week-end Mass.

Objective 3. Reach out to the poor and vulnerable

Action Steps:

- a. Increase volunteers to continue the work of St. Vincent de Paul and the Jail Ministry.
- b. Conduct Parish Food Drives for St. Vincent de Paul via:
 1. Challenge group of all ages to participate in food drives.
 2. Church "section" competition at all three parishes.
- c. Publish quarterly reports for St. Vincent de Paul, Helping Hand, Service and Mission trips.
- d. Hold a coat drive for Helping Hand in the fall.
- e. Hold Back to School Drive in summer to benefit Helping Hand.

- f. Join with other churches to volunteer for "Warm Blessings" and Habitat for Humanity.
- g. Revive the Transportation Ministry to help folks get to church.

Objective 4. Nurture the life of the parish community.

Action Steps:

- a. Schedule and promote a variety of book Clubs.
- b. Encourage young married couples to organize social events (i.e., cookouts, day trips, etc.).
- c. Arrange parish social events (i.e., potluck dinners, bingo night, and breakfast club).
- d. Provide an Adult care for the elderly.
- e. Plan activities for single adults.

Objective 5. Engage in the life of the broader community.

Action Steps:

- a. Provide welcome packages for BRAC families, including a pictorial directory.
- b. Advertise events in the newspaper.
- c. Recruit new members to Covenant Committee (all ages, youth-senior) and encourage more participation in Covenant events.
- d. St. Ignatius. Join in with group activities with other churches in the community.
- e. St. Ignatius. Provide the Chamber of Commerce— mass times/contacts to church directory for new families.
- f. St. Ambrose. Hold Bingo 4-5 times/year.
- g. Form parish centered men's and women's guilds that reach out to the needs of the community.
- h. Participate in ecumenical events like May Friendship Day and Church Women United.
- i. Increase the use of the TV Ministry "loop" slides more.
- j. Offer Trunk or Treat for Halloween.
- k. Write and distribute a history of St. Ambrose.
- l. Expand the hotel/motel information card to include St. Ambrose and St. Ignatius Mass schedule and location.