Mission

The life and mission of the Church requires that it be provided with competent ministers, effective organizations and appropriate resources in order to be effective stewards of God’s gifts. The pastoral needs of the people in local communities will be identified, ever mindful of the larger church, and will call forth the gifts and resources necessary to serve those needs now and in the future.

Model Parish Document

The self-study is to be used in concert with the Model Parish document as it establishes a set of assumptions on which to evaluate parish life and strategize for the future.


ECCLESIOLOGY

CATHOLIC

1. Our parish understands and appreciates its relationship with the Diocese.
   
2. Our parish knows and appreciates its history as a parish.
   
3. Our parish utilizes the services offered by the Diocese.
   
4. Our parish supports the missionary effort of the universal Church.
   
5. Our parish collaborates with neighboring parishes.

CLERGY

6. Our parish understands that priesthood is essential to the sacramental life of the Church.
   
7. Our parish understands the many responsibilities required of our priests.

LAITY

8. Our parishioners understand the responsibilities for the mission of the Church that flow forth from their Baptism.
Our lay ministers receive appropriate formation for their ministry.

ECCLESIOLOGY SUMMARY

Greatest Strengths:

Greatest Needs/Concerns:
PARISH LIFE

EVANGELIZATION

10. Our parishioners invite others to the Lord and to join the Catholic Church.

11. The parish evangelizes by being a welcoming community.

12. Our parish seeks out Catholic households of other ethnic groups that move into our parish.

13. Our parish has an Evangelization Commission/Committee.

14. The parish reaches out to inactive Catholics.

STEWARDSHIP

15. Our parish has on-going education regarding Stewardship as a Way of Life.

16. Our parishioners are anxious to share their talents in response to the gospel call.

17. Our parishioners are actively involved in parish ministry (Example: liturgical ministers, cantors, catechists, etc.)

FELLOWSHIP

18. Our parish hosts social activities and programs for the parish community.

How many active participants?

RATING
Needs Improvement to Excellent
1 2 3 4 5
19. Rate the level of participation in fellowship activities by the following groups:

- a) Women
- b) Men
- c) Single
- d) Married
- e) Single parents
- f) Separated
- g) Divorced
- h) Youth
- i) Senior Citizens

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS

20. The youth of our parish engage in service projects and reflect on them.

21. The youth of our parish avail themselves of opportunities for enriching their prayer lives.

22. The youth of our parish participate in ministry.

23. The young adults of our parish engage in service projects and reflect on them.

24. The young adults of our parish avail themselves of opportunities for enriching their prayer lives.

25. The young adults of our parish participate in ministry.
PARISH LIFE SUMMARY

Greatest Strengths:

________________________________________________________________________

Greatest Needs/Concerns:
SIZE AND LOCATION

SIZE

26. The number of weekend Masses celebrated in our parish is appropriate for the size of the parish community. □ □ □ □ □

27. Our parish collaborates with other parishes in developing needed ministries. □ □ □ □ □

28. The population of our parish area:
   a) Is growing, b) Is stable, c) Is declining □ □ □

29. Church attendance over the last 3 years:
   a) Is growing, b) Is stable, c) Is declining □ □ □

LOCATION

30. The present church building is well located for the parish it serves. □ □ □ □ □
SIZE AND LOCATION SUMMARY

Greatest Strengths:

Greatest Needs/Concerns:

ADMINISTRATION AND
GOVERNANCE

PARISH MINISTRY IN GENERAL

31. Our priests and parishioners minister collaboratively. □ □ □ □ □

32. The pastor encourages active participation in the community life of the parish. □ □ □ □ □

33. Given the number of priests in the Diocese, our parish has sufficient parishioners to justify maintaining our buildings, property, and facilities at the present level. □ □ □ □ □

34. Our parish deacon(s) is/are actively involved in numerous parish ministries. □ □ □ □ □ NA □

35. The work of lay ministers responds well to the needs of the parish. □ □ □ □ □

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

36. Our parish has an active Parish Pastoral Council that collaborates well with the pastor in the overall life of the parish. □ □ □ □ □

37. Our Parish Pastoral Council is sensitive to the needs of the parishioners. □ □ □ □ □

38. Our Parish Pastoral Council communicates its actions to the parishioners. □ □ □ □ □

39. Orientation and/or training is provided for new members of our Parish Pastoral Council. □ □ □ □ □
40. Our Parish Pastoral Council regularly evaluates parish programs to determine their effectiveness in meeting the real needs of our people.

41. Our Parish Pastoral Council has communicated and discussed the parish mission statement with the parishioners.

**STEWARDSHIP OF MATERIAL RESOURCES**

42. A Parish Finance Council meets regularly.

43. Our parishioners practice stewardship of finance in support of the parish.

44. Our parishioners practice stewardship of finance in support of the Diocese.

**OTHER PARISH COMMITTEES**

45. Our parish has committees that suitably meet the needs of the parish community.

**PARISH FACILITIES and OFFICE**

46. Our parish has sufficient facility space to meet all present ministry needs.

47. Parish facilities are adequate for the perceived future needs of the parish, its people, and its programs.

48. Our parish is:
   a) Overstaffed, b) Appropriately staffed,
   c) Inappropriately staffed, d) Understaffed

49. Our parish office is properly equipped to meet the needs of the pastor and the parish.
ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNANCE SUMMARY

Greatest Strengths:

________________________________________________________________________

Greatest Needs/Concerns:

________________________________________________________________________
SACRAMENTAL AND SPIRITUAL LIFE

SPIRITUALITY

50. Parishioners are encouraged to discern prayerfully how their gifts serve the mission of the Church.

51. In our parish special opportunities for spiritual growth are provided.

52. Our parish expects more involvement than Sunday Mass attendance from all parishioners.

   Please attach a list of opportunities available in the parish for spiritual growth on an on-going basis.

53. The parish provides opportunities for parishioners to share their faith.

BAPTISM

54. Our parish has an active process for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA).

   Yes ___ No ___

   How many were in each following the Rite of Election in 2009:

   a) Inquiry, b) Catechumenate, c) Mystagogy

55. Our parish has an RCIA Director other than a priest.

   Yes ___ No ___

56. Our parish has an active pre-Baptism program for parents of infants and children.

57. In our parish Baptisms are celebrated during Mass.

   How many in 2008:

   a) During Mass, b) Outside of Mass

   In 2008 how many Baptisms were celebrated by:

   c) Immersion/Submersion, d) Pouring
58. Parishioners are encouraged to reflect on their Baptism as a call to service in the Church.

For the years 2006-2007-2008:

a) Adults baptized (ages 18 and above)

b) Conversion by profession of faith

c) Youth and children baptized (ages birth to 18)

59. Our parish has a process to prepare adolescents for Confirmation.

60. In our parish parents participate in the preparation for Confirmation.

61. In our parish sponsors participate in the preparation for Confirmation.

62. In our parish, adults and children over 7 years of age who wish to become Catholic receive all three Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation) in a single Rite of Initiation.

   a) Does this usually occur at the Easter Vigil? Yes ___ No ___
RECONCILIATION

63. Our parish celebrates the Rite for Reconciliation of individual penitents.

64. How often is the Sacrament of Reconciliation scheduled each a) week? b) for how long?

65. On average, how many avail themselves of the Sacrament of Reconciliation each week?

66. Our parish celebrates communal Penance Rites with individual confession and absolution.

   How often:
   a) Advent, b) Lent, c) Other

67. In our parish there is a process to prepare for and celebrate First Penance.

68. In our parish parents participate in the preparation for First Penance.

MATRIMONY

69. In our parish, couples are suitably prepared for marriage according to the policies of the diocese.

   a) If the preparation offered diverges from diocesan policies, please attach a description of how and why.

70. The parish provides ongoing enrichment for married couples.
HOLY ORDERS

71. In our parish, vocations to the religious life are strongly encouraged by priests and laity.
72. In our parish vocations to the priesthood are strongly encouraged by priests and laity.
73. Since 2000 how many of your parishioners have:
   a) Been admitted to the seminary?
   b) Been admitted to the Permanent Diaconate Program?
   c) Entered a religious order?

RATING

Needs Improvement to Excellent

1 2 3 4 5

71. In our parish, vocations to the religious life are strongly encouraged by priests and laity.
72. In our parish vocations to the priesthood are strongly encouraged by priests and laity.
73. Since 2000 how many of your parishioners have:
   a) Been admitted to the seminary?
   b) Been admitted to the Permanent Diaconate Program?
   c) Entered a religious order?

ANointING OF THE SICK

74. Our parish has communal anointing of the sick.
    How often annually?
75. The homebound and chronically ill receive pastoral care.
    Frequency:
    a) Visits
    b) Eucharist
    c) Anointing of the Sick

76. How many hospitals are there within parish boundaries?
    a) Are there full-time priest chaplains at these hospitals?
    b) Are there full-time deacons or lay Catholic chaplains?

77. How many nursing homes or residential care centers are there within your parish boundaries?
78. Pastoral care is offered to the Catholic residents to these homes.
    Frequency:
    a) Visits
    b) Eucharist
    c) Anointing of the Sick

EUCHARIST
75. Does the parish have a Liturgy Committee?

80. On average, the number of parishioners who have Holy Communion brought to them weekly.

81. A high percentage of parishioners attend Mass:
   a) Every weekend  b) Daily
   c) Twice a year or less
d) On Holy Days of Obligation

82. Eucharistic adoration is offered in our parish.
   a) Number of hours a day parishioners have access to Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

83. The parish offers exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.
   What is the schedule?

84. In our parish Vigils for the Deceased (Wakes) are celebrated.
   In 2008 how many by:
   a) A priest, b) A deacon, c) A trained lay person

85. Does the parish have its own parish cemetery?

86. Our parish offers an ongoing bereavement ministry for family members of the deceased.
Greatest Strengths:

Greatest Needs/Concerns:
LITURGIES IN GENERAL

MUSIC

87. Music and song are a regular part of the Eucharistic celebration in our parish. ❏ ❏ ❏ ❏ ❏
88. Our parish witnesses enthusiasm in its responses and singing at Sunday Mass. ❏ ❏ ❏ ❏ ❏
89. Our parish has an organized music ministry.
   a) A music director? Yes ___ No ___
      If Yes, Paid ___ Volunteer ___
   b) Instrumentalists? Yes ___ No ___
      If Yes, Paid ___ Volunteer ___
   c) Cantors? Yes ___ No ___
      If Yes, Paid ___ Volunteer ___
90. Our parish has a choir.
   a) How many choirs?
      b c d
   b) Traditional, c) Gospel, d) Contemporary e f
   e) Youth, f) Language other than English

DIVERSITY

91. Worship services in our parish reflect the cultures in attendance. ❏ ❏ ❏ ❏ ❏
### ART AND ENVIRONMENT

92. Our parish maintains the physical environment appropriate to the liturgical season.

- a) Appropriate to the culture of the worshippers? 

- b) Appropriate to the liturgies being celebrated?

93. In our parish an atmosphere of quiet and decorum allows for prayer and reflection before worship begins.

### HOMILY

94. In our parish, homilies are well prepared and challenge us to deeper Christian living.

### LAY LITURGICAL MINISTERS

95. Our parish invites the laity in a wide range of liturgical ministries.

96. Our parish provides training for lay liturgical ministers.

97. Our parish has a significant number of both men and women involved in ministry.
PUBLIC WORSHIP WITHOUT A PRIEST

98. Our parish has parishioners prepared to lead the parish in prayer.

99. How often annually does the parish offer Communion Services or other public worship in lieu of Mass without a priest?

HOSPITALITY

100. The parish is a welcoming community.

101. In our parish greeters are present at each weekend Mass.

102. What does your parish do to welcome newcomers and visitors to the community?

LITURGIES IN GENERAL SUMMARY
Greatest Strengths:

Greatest Needs/Concerns:

EDUCATION
ADULT EDUCATION

103. In our parish opportunities are provided for catechesis of adults.
   a) Please identify the activity and number of participants during 2008.

104. The parish provides opportunities for all parishioners to become more knowledgeable in matters of Catholic doctrinal, moral, and social teaching.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

105. The parish supports its own parish elementary school.

106. The parish subsidy represents what percentage of the total parish budget?

107. Tuition represents what percentage of total school budget?

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS (con’t.)

RATING
Needs Improvement to Excellent

1 2 3 4 5
108. The parish supports its students in other Catholic elementary schools with financial assistance.

   Yes ____  No ____

   a) Total subsidies to schools other parishes.

   b) Number of students.

109. The parish Catholic school is available to all students of the parish without prejudice to economic status.

   a) The parish offers financial aid/tuition assistance to low income students.

   Yes ____  No ____

   b) Number of students receiving financial assistance.

   c) Total dollar amount of assistance.

110. If the parish does not have a Catholic elementary school, how many miles is it to the nearest Catholic school?

   mi.

111. The parish Catholic school is administered according to Diocesan policy.

   ❏    ❏    ❏    ❏    ❏

112. To what degree does the Diocese need a unified approach to Catholic education?

   ❏    ❏    ❏    ❏    ❏

113. The Catholic school has a positive impact on the life of the parish.

   ❏    ❏    ❏    ❏    ❏

RATING
PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAMS

114. The parish encourages and supports parents as the primary religious educators of their children.  

115. The parish offers viable programs of religious instruction for families, children, and youth.  

116. The Religious Education Program for elementary students is effective.  
   
   2007-2008  
   a) How many actual students,  
   b) Possible students  

117. Our parish Religious Education Program for high school students is effective.  
   
   2007-2008  
   a) How many actual students,  
   b) Possible students  

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

118. The parish has a qualified Director of Religious Education (not including pastor).  

   a) How many hours are spent weekly working for the parish?  
   hrs.  

   b) This time commitment meets the needs of the parish.  
   Yes ___  No ___  

119. The parish Director of Religious Education provides leadership and training programs for all catechists of the parish.
CATECHISTS

120. The parish supports its lay ministers and volunteers with regular and on-going in-service programs. □ □ □ □ □

121. The parish provides for and supports initial and on-going training for its catechists. □ □ □ □ □

122. The parish arranges for sacramental preparation and catechesis for parishioners with disabilities. □ □ □ □ □

123. Catechists are readily available in our parish. □ □ □ □ □

YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR

124. The has a qualified coordinator of youth ministry. □ □ □ □ □

125. The parish has a youth ministry program for adolescents. □ □ □ □ □

126. The parish has a ministry program for young adults. □ □ □ □ □

127. Does attendance drop off in the Spring and Summer? □ □ □ □ □
   a) After preparation for sacraments? □ □ □ □ □
EDUCATION SUMMARY

Greatest Strengths:

Greatest Needs/Concerns:
HUMAN CONCERNS

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PARISH WORKS OF CHARITY

128. The physical, mental, and emotional needs of people in the area are being met through the work of the Church.

129. The parish provides funding for special needs programs and activities.

130. The parish makes referrals to the various departments of Catholic Charities.

NETWORKING

131. The parish reaches out to those in need by working with community agencies.

132. The parish extends its help to those in need by collaborating with one or more Catholic parishes.

WORK FOR JUSTICE

133. Awareness of social issues is raised through homilies, formed discussions of encyclicals, pastoral letters, etc.

134. Information regarding legislative issues which affect the Church is readily available.

135. Our parish encourages a “Catholic” response to pro-life issues.
## CORPORAL AND SPIRITUAL WORKS OF MERCY

136. Our parish provides ministry for special needs of the community.

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- a) The divorced
  -   |   |   |   |   |   |
- b) The separated
  -   |   |   |   |   |   |
- c) The widowed
  -   |   |   |   |   |   |
- d) The unemployed
  -   |   |   |   |   |   |
- e) The chemically dependent
  -   |   |   |   |   |   |
- f) Single parents
  -   |   |   |   |   |   |
- g) Grandparents rearing children
  -   |   |   |   |   |   |
- h) Other
  -   |   |   |   |   |   |

Describe:

---

137. Our parish has active programs to assist people with special needs.

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- a) Disadvantaged ethnic minorities
  -   |   |   |   |   |   |
- b) Economically deprived
  -   |   |   |   |   |   |
- c) Those in prison
  -   |   |   |   |   |   |
- d) Family members of those in prison
  -   |   |   |   |   |   |
CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY (con’t.)

e) Other

Describe:

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138. The parish opens its facilities to community groups for meetings (e.g. Alcoholics Anonymous, etc.)

139. The parish provides persons in crisis with access to the counseling and emotional support they need.

COUNSELING

ECUMENISM

140. The parish collaborates with other religious groups within the community in matters of shared concern.

141. The parish works to create an environment of harmony within the religious groups of the community.
**HUMAN CONCERNS SUMMARY**

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| ____________________ |
I. Is there anything about parish life, the community, or activities not covered in the Parish Self-Study that helps describe the vitality of the parish?