

Pastor's page: **The Third Pillar of Our Parish Vision Statement, Part Two: LIFELONG FAITH FORMATION**

“We are dedicated to inspiring the young and the old through lifelong education and formation of minds and hearts.” (Under the leadership of Sr. Angela Gannon, CSJ, the small group brainstorming on the third pillar of our vision statement, *Lifelong Faith Formation*, produced three goals to accomplish in the year.)

I. The First Goal is *“To Re-engage Families into the parish community.”* This will be accomplished in three ways:

1) Inviting families to key events through the Directors of Faith Formation (Kathy and Claire); 2) Enhancing the liturgical experience at the 9:30 AM Sunday Family Mass with a contemporary or folk choir, family greeters, Junior lectors, and homilies directed to young people and their families (*the Liturgy Committee will have this responsibility*) 3) Convening parish evening Social Events focused on families. (*The Parish Fun-raising Committee will have this responsibility*)

II. The Second Goal is *“To Engage Young Adults (ages 18-30) in Community Involvement and Social Justice.”* This will be accomplished in five ways:

1) A *Young Adult Committee* will be established to accomplish the goal of engaging young adults in community involvement and social justice. (The Director of Parish Social Ministry and the Director of Youth Ministry will lead this effort to organize a Young Adult Committee for Community and Social Justice. 2) Young adults will be invited and trained to serve as catechists, liturgical ministers, and Outreach volunteers. (This effort will be led by the Director of Parish Social Ministry, the Director of Liturgy, and the Director of Youth Ministry). 3) Young adults will be encouraged to participate both locally and diocesan wide in spiritual and social activities (Faith on Tap; Scripture in the Sand, etc.) The Director of Youth Ministry will lead this effort. 4) St. Kilian young adults will establish a Facebook (or other social media) page to spread the good news of their efforts socially and spiritually. The Director of Youth Ministry will coordinate this.

III. The Third Goal is *“To Explore New Opportunities for Spiritual and Educational Formation for All Parish Adults.”* This will be accomplished in three ways:

1) *All parents in the parish* will be invited to attend a ‘Spirituality Series’ with invited speakers and events, which will focus on their role as parents. (The Spirituality Committee and the Faith Formation Office will be responsible for implementing this.) 2) Information about opportunities for retreats, lectures, film series, and workshops related to spiritual formation and faith development will be provided during the year. This information will be advertised through email blasts to Religious Education families, the Parish Bulletin, parish

Website, and social media. (The Parish Staff and Faith Formation Office will implement this.)

Our Action Plan (a 5 year plan, implemented year by year) can only succeed in reaching our goals and objectives through the *active involvement of all parishioners*. We need not only the organized efforts of the many committees and ministries in our parish. *We need you!* Your participation, your prayers, your personal witness and invitation, your Christian charity, and your collaboration with me and your fellow parishioners will make our dreams come true.

Joining a parish is not about getting something. It is about giving ourselves wholeheartedly to Jesus Christ and the service of his people in this place and time. When we get involved at St. Kilian, we can hear the voice of St. Paul in our hearts and minds: *“I give thanks to my God at every remembrance of you, praying always with joy in my every prayer for all of you, because of your partnership for the gospel from the first day until now.”* (Paul to the Philippians 1:3-5)

Peace, Father Bruce