

**Priority 5: Strengthen Christian service and apostolic action as an essential component of living our faith.**

Goals:

1. Raise visibility and accessibility to Christian service projects and apostolic action.
2. Increase the number of parishioners who are involved in service in the community and beyond.
3. Take leadership in convening and partnering with churches in SE Polk county area to support Central Place and address its funding cuts.
4. Explore opportunities for service and apostolic action in a third world country.

**Priority 6: Provide resources and support for couples, marriages, and families.**

Goals:

1. Provide information/resources about marriages and relationships, including interfaith marriages, annulments, and validation of marriages.
2. Provide strong support for right to life issues.
3. Raise awareness of the role/services of the parish nurse among the congregation.
4. Support and information about healthy relationships, for children and families.

**Priority 7: Address infrastructure and physical plant needs related to maintenance and growth.**

Goals:

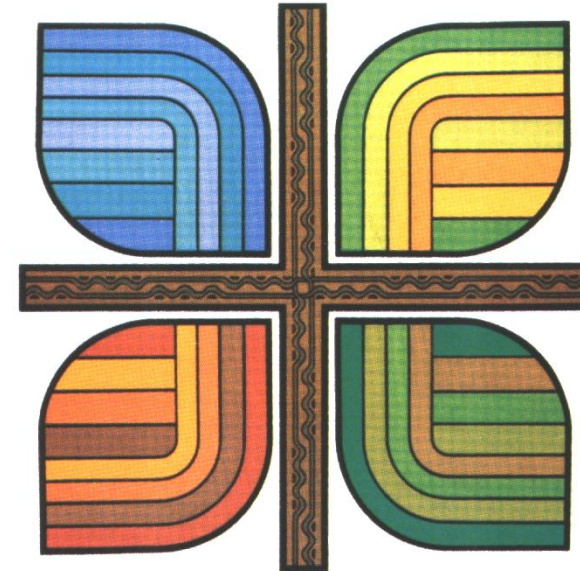
1. Ensure there is ongoing attention to developing stewardship.
2. Conduct a study of SSJP facilities for the purpose of planning and meeting needs related to future growth of the parish community.
2. Building and Grounds committee to develop long term plan (10-20 years) for property and grounds.

**Priority 8: Promote pastoral leadership and ministry formation.**

Goals:

1. Promote discernment of God's call through our baptism.
2. Identify areas of specific needs for pastoral leadership and ministry (both volunteers and professional staff).
3. Invite and nurture the next generation of ministers and pastoral leaders.
4. Commit funding for ongoing formation of pastoral staff and initial formation for some others being mentored into pastoral leadership.

*Ss. John and Paul Catholic Community  
Altoona, Iowa*



*2011 and Beyond:*

*A Long Range Vision for the Parish*

*Updated by Pastoral Council  
June 30, 2011*

*Beginning in September 2010*, the Pastoral Council has worked to develop a guiding vision for the life of Ss. John and Paul parish.

The Council has consulted diocesan and church directives about parish life (including the Church's "six essential dimensions of lifelong faith formation"), has considered various suggestions and alternatives, and then has discussed the life of the parish with committees, organizations and parish groups. The Council has prayed for guidance and wisdom, to provide a compelling vision of the parish's future.

Assisted by Janet Drey, the Pastoral Council first identified **priorities** for the life of the parish. For each of the eight priorities, the Council then noted more specific **goals**, by which to achieve the priority. (These eight priorities and the goals for each are detailed here.)

Now the Council is deliberating how these goals are to be pursued — **objectives and tasks**: What steps are needed so the goals are accomplished? Who will be responsible for these steps? What is the timeline for these steps?

*The Council will continue work on this vision statement in the upcoming months.* In addition, the Council will begin to meet with the committees, organizations and groups of the parish, to gauge how the priorities and goals are being implemented.

The Council invites your questions, comments and further input for its vision statement. You may contact a Council member or send an email ([ssjohnpaul@ssjohnpaul.org](mailto:ssjohnpaul@ssjohnpaul.org)).

**Members of the Pastoral Council:**

Teresa Brandt	Jeannine Matz
Fr. Tim Fitzgerald	Matt McCoy
Chevy Freiberger	Jenny Russell
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Aaron Huey	Chris Westhoff

**Priority 1: Build up the life and vitality of the parish community.**

Goals:

1. Welcome all potential and newly registered members.
2. Increase and deepen parishioner participation.
3. Create an all-inclusive culture of hospitality.

**Priority 2: Expand and enhance communication tools and electronic resources.**

Goals:

1. Create an electronic communications committee.
2. Enhance graphic design for print and electronic resources based on electronic communications committee recommendations.

**Priority 3: Broaden and expand faith formation for adults and the entire community.**

Goals:

1. Educate the parish community regarding the variety of faith formation opportunities that exist.
2. Address any gaps that exist in faith formation pertaining to the six essential tasks or developmental age group needs.
3. Support and continue small faith-sharing and bible study groups to promote in depth formation of faith.
4. Offer retreats and workshops for those involved in faith formation.
5. Promote and support growth in prayer and relationship with God.

**Priority 4: Strengthen the liturgical life of the parish.**

Goals:

1. Enhance hospitality during Mass and other events.
2. Provide ongoing faith formation for liturgical ministers.
3. Invite wider participation into liturgical roles.
4. Enhance liturgical music.
5. Provide ongoing liturgical formation for the assembly.