



# Building a Successful Parish Strategic Stewardship Plan

In today's world, we are told to plan for our children's college, to plan for our retirement, to plan for long term assisted living. So, why are we not planning for our parish's future?

Consider these six areas of parish life when devising your parish plan.

**Spiritual - Liturgical - Ministerial - Social - Fiscal - Structural**

Good planning today provides a brighter future for our parishes.



**All evaluation, planning and goal setting should originate and flow from our parish mission statement.**

*About our mission statement:*

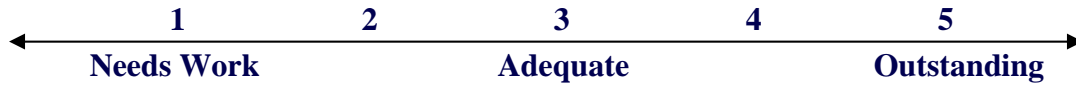
- Does our parish have a mission statement?
- When was the last time our mission statement was evaluated and/or updated?
- Is our mission statement clear, accessible and communicated regularly with our parish community?



# Six Areas of Parish Life to Consider and Discuss

## 1. Spiritual Activities: *Including Parish Mission Opportunities; Parish Retreats; Days of Reflection*

On a scale of 1-5, please rate our parish's Spiritual life and activities.



*Consider: Number and variety of spiritual opportunities offered, participation and feedback. What is the spiritual “feeling” in our parish? How are the events and opportunities evaluated and by whom? How is the spirituality of stewardship reflected in our spiritual life and activities?*

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*Three Short-Term Goals:*

*by when?*

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*Three Long-Term Goals:*

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*Additional ideas moving forward:* \_\_\_\_\_

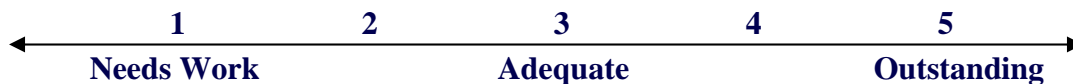
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## 2. Liturgical Activities: *Including Weekly Mass; Holy Days; Homilies; Music; Environment; Welcoming*

On a scale of 1-5, please rate the Liturgical experience and activities at our parish.



*Consider: How effectively are all aspects of liturgy planned and celebrated? Does the liturgical experience, including the homilies, connect with and relate to parishioners' daily lives? How visible and accessible are parish staff and ministry leaders at Liturgy? How is the spirituality of stewardship reflected in our liturgical parish life?*

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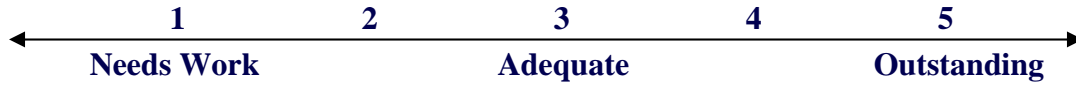
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**3. Ministerial:** *Including Ministry Awareness; Ministry Directory; Gift Discovery; Communications*

On a scale of 1-5, please rate our parish's Ministerial life.



*Consider: What are the means of communication between ministries? How do we inform parishioners of ministry opportunities? How do we invite others to share their gifts? What ministries need to be developed and/or re-envisioned to best serve our parish? How is the spirituality of stewardship reflected in our ministerial activities?*

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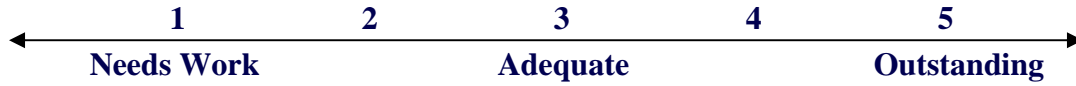
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**4. Social Activities:** *Including Events; Picnic; Dances; Hospitality; Fish Fry; Trips; Parties*

On a scale of 1-5, please rate our parish's Social Activities.



*Consider: How well do our Social activities relate to the diverse needs of our community? (age, culture, family life) What other groups need to be recognized and invited? How can our parish social activities better connect to daily life activities? How is the spirituality of stewardship reflected in our social activities?*

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*Three Long-Term Goals:*

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*Additional ideas moving forward:* \_\_\_\_\_

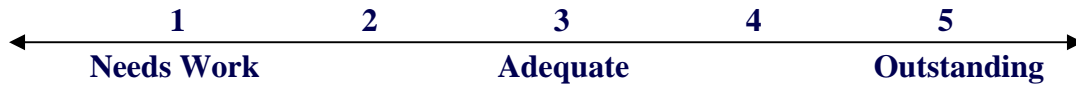
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**5. Fiscal:** *Including Budget; Staffing; Fundraising; Appeals; Offertory; Planned Giving; Reserves*

On a scale of 1-5, please rate our parish's Fiscal Management.



*Consider: Do we have a balanced budget? How transparent are we in communicating fiscal matters to our parishioners? Does our spending reflect our priorities as a parish community? What is our financial plan for the future? How is the spirituality of stewardship reflected in our fiscal management and activities?*

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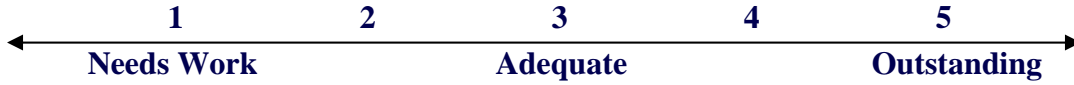
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**6. Structural:** *Including Campus; Buildings; Maintenance; Signage; Use of Space; Office Space; Recreational Space, Meeting Rooms, Liturgical Restoration and Renovation*

On a scale of 1-5, please rate our parish's Structural integrity.



*Consider: What are the structural needs of our campus? How effectively is space used? Is our campus well lit, safe and sufficiently labeled? Do we have appropriate meeting space/recreational space? Is our worship space adequate? In good repair? In need of improvement? Is our present campus fulfilling our long-term plans and mission? How is the spirituality of stewardship reflected in the care of the structural aspects of our parish?*

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**Three Long-Term Goals:**

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**Additional ideas moving forward:** \_\_\_\_\_

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# A Full Range of Services

- **Established 1994**
- **\$1.5 Billion Raised**
- **98% Success Rate**
- **Bi-Lingual Directors**
- **Customized Plans**
- **On-Site Guidance**



## **Diocesan:**

**Feasibility Studies**  
**Strategic Planning**  
**Capital Campaigns**  
**Stewardship Initiatives**  
**Annual Appeals**  
**Targeted Workshops**  
**Development Office**  
**Assessment**

## **Parish:**

**Feasibility Studies**  
**Strategic Planning**  
**Building Campaigns**  
**Debt Reduction Campaigns**  
**Stewardship Initiatives**  
**Offertory Enhancement**  
**Restoration/Renovation**  
**Campaigns**

## **School:**

**Feasibility Studies**  
**Building Campaigns**  
**Annual Appeals**  
**Alumni Relations**  
**Endowment Campaigns**  
**Tuition Assistance Campaigns**

*"If you are worried about launching a Capital Campaign to raise much needed funds for your Parish, stop worrying, and place your trust in Lynch Development Associates!"*

**Fr. John Ruffo**  
St. Catharine of Siena Parish  
Seaside Park, NJ



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**L·D·A**  
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