

# COLLABORATIVE PASTORAL PLAN

## Our Collaborative Purpose

The purpose of the Medford Catholic Collaborative is to help our community know, love and serve God in this life so that we can be happy with Him forever in the next. Our goal is to be informed disciples and loving witnesses to our personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

## Our Collaborative Values

*Joy – We choose to be people who exude the love of Christ.*

- We welcome all to serve God and each other
- We proclaim the The Good News of Jesus Christ with reverence and joy
- We celebrate each person's encounter with Jesus

*Compassion – We seek opportunities to support one another*

- We pray for those in need
- We feed the hungry
- We visit the sick, lonely and bereaved.
- We invite all those who feel separated from the Church

*Prayer – We offer our minds and our hearts to God to adore Him, to thank Him, to ask His forgiveness and for all the graces we need.*

- We desire to listen to God as he speaks to us and guides us.
- We strengthen our personal relationship with Jesus Christ through public and private prayer.
- We actively participate in the Sunday liturgy, the prayer of the Church.

## Our Collaborative Vision

The Medford Catholic Collaborative will be a unified community that affords individuals the opportunity to know God.

- We will proclaim the joy of the Gospel.
- We will develop informed, faithful disciples.
- We will provide meaningful worship/liturgy.
- We will foster compassionate service to those in need.
- We will invite all to be brothers and sisters in Christ with patience and love.

## Our Collaborative Priorities for 2018 – 2021

Over the next three years, the clergy and lay staff and parishioners of the Medford Catholic Collaborative will focus our efforts on the following three pastoral priorities and associated goals in order to fulfill the vision of our collaborative and foster the New Evangelization.

### **Priority: Sunday Liturgy**

*Focus on the liturgy in order to make it a central part of our collaborative life and ensure fuller participation through prayer, public ministry, and increased financial support of the works of the local Church.*

**Goal:** Involve 50 new and informed liturgical ministers who will serve the collaborative by December 2018.

**Strategies:**

- Form a Ministry Recruiting Team of 2 members from each Parish
- Recruit and train 20 new altar servers to serve both parishes
- Select 10 Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, 10 Ushers/Greeters and 10 Lectors
  - Offer standardized training for all three ministries
- Offer programs that inform the collaborative of the “why” of our liturgical traditions.

**Goal:** Increase weekend Mass attendance in the Collaborative by 5% by June 2019

**Strategies:**

- Parishioners will actively and intentionally invite individuals back to Mass.
- Be actively present on social media platforms.
- Quarterly press releases to local print media.
- Organized presence at Medford community events on a monthly basis.
- Enhance Family Mass by celebrating Children’s Liturgy of the Word.

**Priority: Vocations**

*We recognize the need that every person is called to a particular vocation within the life of the Church through priesthood, religious or consecrated life, diaconate, marriage or single life. The local Church has the responsibility of fostering each of its vocations. Our Collaborative will promote vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood and a Culture of Vocations.*

**Goal:** Engage 25 parishioners annually in a vocation awareness opportunity, with a special emphasis on the diocesan priesthood, by June 2021.

**Strategies:**

- Establish a Vocations Awareness Team to promote vocations to diocesan priesthood, consecrated or religious life, diaconate, marriage and single life.
- Conduct 2 vocation awareness events annually.
- Sponsor 3 young men to the St. Andrew Dinner annually.
- Actively communicate to parishioners through Collaborative Parish bulletin, website and other social media platforms.

**Goal:** Provide greater understanding of vocation to promote a culture of vocation at Saint Joseph School by June 2020.

**Strategies:**

- Actively participate in Vocations Awareness Week events.
- Invite & recruit 10 Saint Joseph School students to serve as altar servers.
- Encourage altar servers to attend the annual Altar Server Appreciation Mass.
- Yearly, nominate 1 altar server per parish to the Server Awards at the Cathedral.
- Include lesson about vocations once per year in the religion curriculum for every grade level.
- Annually, Priests of the Collaborative will each personally invite two individuals to consider a vocation to the diocesan priesthood by inviting participation in Discernment Retreats at local Seminaries.

**Priority: Collaborative Community**

*Parishioners should feel at home at both parishes. We will be committed to breaking down any barriers that inhibit collaboration.*

**Goal:** Celebrate collaborative liturgical events each year with 75 people attending from each parish by December 2018.

**Strategies:**

- Continue to alternate special liturgical, prayer and faith formation events such as Holy Week Masses, Mass of Anointing, Lenten Mission, Holy Hour for Life, etc. between St. Joseph and St. Francis of Assisi Parishes.
- Celebrate one St. Joseph School Mass a year at St. Francis of Assisi Church.
- Implement the “Prayer Pals” program – parishioners offering prayers for each other across the parishes in the collaborative.

**Goal:** 25 parishioners from each parish to participate in a service opportunity or event annually by June 2019.

**Strategies:**

- Devote one weekend per year to Catholic Social teachings through homilies, bulletin announcements and speakers.
- Recruit 5 new members to the social outreach ministries of St. Vincent de Paul, Friends of Francis Food Pantry and Knights of Columbus.
- Have collaborative parishioners serve at the Bread of Life meal center semi-annually.

**Goal:** Increase participation and retention of individuals and families in the collaborative following sacramental moments by 20 individuals each year.

**Strategies:**

- Establish a collaborative outreach team of 8 collaborative members by June 2018.
- Create a process to reach out to families and individuals post sacramentally and significant moments: baptism, Rite of Christian Initiation, funeral and marriage by June 2019.
- Create a Bereavement Ministry by June 2019.