

Blessed Trinity Parish
10472 Beach Blvd.
Jacksonville, Florida 32246
641-1414

Ministry Goals

2009



Blessed Trinity Catholic Church
10472 Beach Boulevard
Jacksonville, Florida 32246
904-641-1414

Looking Ahead—A Letter from Father Haut

Dear Members of Blessed Trinity Parish:

This is a report on our strategic planning process. It began with an open meeting on October 16, 2008. At that meeting we considered more than 200 different observations about the parish. We took note of the blessings we enjoy; we made observations about the problems we face; we made suggestions for possible actions. We voted on the suggested actions and ranked them in order of importance.

After the meeting October 16 the Parish Pastoral Council asked each ministry to review its purpose and make some goal statements for the new year. This document contains those purposes and goals.

We have identified many different ministries and organizations at Blessed Trinity parish. They are gathered in these seven clusters of ministries:

Administration
Formation
Liturgy
Parish Life
Parish School
Social Outreach
Stewardship

The Parish Pastoral Council met on November 18 to review the preliminary input from the various ministries and to consider its own set of goals for the coming year.

Between that meeting and December 6th I have finished collating the input from the ministries and preparing this booklet and this letter.

This has been a gratifying process. When I arrived at Blessed Trinity in August I felt inundated by information, names of people, and questions. Now I'm feeling very much at home and I am confident about the parish and our future.

I want to point out three themes that I hope will guide us in the coming year--

We want to be a parish of participants.

Our world and our culture work to turn us into spectators. We watch television. We watch football and baseball. We stand by as the economy and world politics seem to rush past us. We feel helpless if the face of the big events going on around us.

It should not be that way here at Blessed Trinity Parish. We participate in the life of the parish. We are active in worship and service. We want to be engaged in the life of our neighborhoods and our city—and our world.

I'm hoping that this coming year even more people will participate in the works of the parish and most of all I hope that our prayer and liturgies will become more engaging because everyone is taking an active part.

We want to improve our physical plant.

We would like to make things better for all the members of our parish by building a gym for the school and more space for the youth, the parish organizations, and the people who work for the parish.

These improvements will take time to plan and money to complete but I hope that during the coming year we will be able to make some improvements and plan for the really big one—a new gym.

Whatever we are able to do about our physical plant is really a reflection of the changes we are able to achieve in our hearts and in our community. The temple of the heart is always our first priority.

Our spirituality must be strong.

As Catholics we act in this world on the basis of our beliefs. We are much more than a gathering of friends. We are doing good things in the world for more than good reasons—we are acting as the Body of Christ today. Our faith in Jesus Christ is the ground for all our work.

We as a parish are celebrating fifty years of life here on Beach Boulevard but we are celebrating almost two thousand years of faith as members of the Catholic Church. When we rediscover the power of the Gospel and the gift of the Holy Spirit we are rediscovering our spirituality.

I hope that 2009 will be much more than a year of celebration. I hope it will be a time of strengthened faith—a time for all of us to let God's Spirit shape our vision of life and our way of life.

As you review this set of ministry descriptions and goals ask yourself how you can help in the work of the parish. Ask yourself about your level of participation, ask what you can contribute to our efforts, ask yourself how the Spirit is working in your heart for the good of your parish.

Vincent J. Haut, Pastor

Major suggestions from October 16

Here is a list of the major suggestions received at our general meeting. I make some comments about each one.

1. A Sunday program for children—This is important and we should try to adopt the rituals which the Church provides for this. Our Liturgy committee is working on this.
2. Build the Gym/Family Center—The Family Center will provide office and meeting space that are needed badly. The two objectives for this year are to review the plans and find the money. A capital campaign will be necessary to do this project.
3. Develop a parish business directory—In these times this is a good idea. Let's proceed!
4. Offer Adult Religious Education—I hope to see many opportunities for adult faith formation provided by the parish but everyone should remember—each person must take responsibility for his or her own growth. Read books and magazines and our excellent parish bulletin. Take advantage of opportunities that arise. Offer your ideas. One idea that surfaced in October was the concept of parish pilgrimages to sacred sites.
5. Beautify the grounds—We can expand the Rosary Garden and add Stations of the Cross along the Church walkway. These plans will have to fit with our long range plan for the property but mostly they depend on volunteers willing to undertake new projects.
6. Sign Language during Mass—Our space and our programs should be open to everyone. Can you sign? Would you be willing to help? What are other ways to open the doors to all? We should be welcoming to all God's people.
7. Improve our facilities—We are working on repairs for our roof and exploring ways to provide better parking and more space for the religious articles store.
8. Publish financial information quarterly in the bulletin—We started this in October and I will be sending you a report for 2008 when we conduct our next stewardship improvement program.
9. Monthly high Mass—We try to vary the way Mass is celebrated according to the seasons of the Church year and the realities of our parish. What we used to call "High Mass" has been replaced with a wide range of ways to make our liturgies eloquent and beautiful.

These and all the other suggestions we heard on October 16 are being considered by your parish staff and by the members of our parish communities. As we publish our goals for the coming year we ask for your prayers of support and your cooperation in the conversations that will shape the fiftieth year of Blessed Trinity Parish.

The Mission of the Blessed Trinity Parish Family is

to be a Christ centered family, worshiping the Father, being formed in the word (Jesus), being formed by the word (Scripture), and living the word in service to one another and all peoples, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

What to look for in the following pages

We list each of our identified ministries in alphabetical order.

For each ministry we show its purpose, its leader, and the goals that have been chosen for the coming year along with projected dates for completion of each goal. In some cases I have added my own comments in CAPITALS. In a project like this there are bound to be errors. I take responsibility for all of them and I'll work hard to eliminate our mistakes when we do the planning for 2010.

In some cases the ministry has not yet made its goals explicit or we are looking for a leader. Think about offering to help!

The purpose of this planning process is to make clear for the whole parish what we are working toward in all our parish ministries. You can scan this information to find ways

To participate

To cooperate

To support

To encourage

To explain

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