

Resurrection Catholic Faith Community Pastoral Planning Process 2017-2018

Blessings & Dreams Survey Report

All parishioners and visitors were invited to respond to the survey, and over 100 chose to do so.

This report contains every blessing and dream and commitment shared (many of these were held in common).

We, the members of the Parish Pastoral Planning Council, are charged with the sacred duty of listening to you and to the Holy Spirit to discern how God is calling us to continue our parish mission “to grow in Christ and to accept the challenges of loving service.”

We could not, and would not do this without you! We thank all of you who took the time and energy to speak to us through the survey. We have read each of your comments many times over, and you and your words, your passion will continue to guide us over the next few months as we begin to discern and create our next five-year parish pastoral plan.

We will present the new plan at our parish’s 50th anniversary celebration on Sunday, September 9th at our 10:15 liturgy, followed by a potluck celebration in Markey Community Center. Please plan on joining us!

Please keep us in prayer and in your hearts, as you are in ours.
It is a privilege and a blessing to be in this wonderful family of faith with you!

Your Parish Pastoral Planning Council

*Fr. Romeo Evangelista, Rosemary Anderson, Dave Boggini,
Deacon Patrick Conway, Rob Darrow, George Dies, Rebecca Liljenstolpe,
Will O’Sullivan, Dillon Scherer, Barbara Smith, Jack Wegrich, Bonnie Wolf*

Blessings - Liturgy & Prayer

“When I come to mass I feel like I am sitting in the living room of the Lord.”

“Every Sunday it is a refuge and a community.”

“The whole community is praying for you.”

“If we lived here, this would be our church!”

“A homily touched my heart, and I knew that God had not forgotten us.”

“The music feeds my soul.”

Blessings summarized in order of frequency
welcoming
good liturgies
spiritual family
wonderful music
presiders are shepherds who guide our faith
shared prayers
good homilies (challenge us to grow; not too long)
spiritually nourishing
this community gives me a place to worship
weekday liturgies - homilies and music
gives me opportunities to contribute and participate
greeters
inclusive
good environment
weekday liturgies - welcoming
Children's Liturgy of the Word
warmth
the young are cherished
Fr. Romeo – friendly, good homilies, good jokes
hear the Word of God
Deacon Patrick - homilies
creative liturgies
sincerity
ride-sharing
memorial mass
anointing of the sick masses
healing atmosphere
a refuge
Scout Sunday
good funerals
children helping EM's
reverence
youth participation

Blessings - Faith Formation

“It has helped me to understand the love of God.”

“Women are blessed by Elizabeth’s Bible studies, where we share our faith and come to know each other while receiving an in-depth presentation of scripture.”

“Baptism when no other church will baptize your child.”

“In the Confirmation program, my son found a place of acceptance, guidance, contributing meaningful work, and comradery.”

Blessings summarized in order of frequency
RCIA process
Bible studies
Faith-sharing groups
Senior programs
Youth formation and its growth
Children’s formation
Children’s Liturgy of the Word
Youth Confirmation process

Blessings - Outreach

“My Resurrection Community has helped me see how people care.”

“Readily responds to needs of those less fortunate.”

“525 children were warmed by Coats for Kids!”

“Gregory’s life has been changed.”

Blessings summarized in order of frequency
Ministries to the homeless
COPA
So many volunteer opportunities
Grief ministry
Knights of Columbus
Youth ministry
Women’s Guild
Senior ministry
Parish Assistance Ministry
Gabriel project
Angel tree
Prison and Jail ministries
Food pantry
San Andreas tutoring
Good Shepherd Catholic School

Blessings - Community Life

“It is a place of belonging, love and compassion.”

“It is a family.”

“It feels like home.”

“A friendly community that is young at heart and embraces a diverse group of people.”

“I have never seen inclusiveness practiced so effectively as it is here.”

“The huge community response when my husband passed away changed and helped my grieving process immensely!”

Blessings summarized in order of frequency
Vibrant, faith-filled welcoming community
Staff - welcoming, dedicated, creative, accepting and competent ministers
Special dinners – St. Patrick’s, seafood, pasta, etc.
Inclusive and supportive
Acceptance of transgender members
Supported, not judged
Support for annulment and marriage
Pastor’s welcome before mass
Sense of the Holy spirit
Community keeps one another grounded
Connected
Friendships formed and gained
Lifelong friends
Smiling and serving
Feeling of belonging
Meeting caring friends
Feels like home
Women’s Guild
Knights of Columbus
New parishioners are welcomed home
A refuge and community
Our children and grandchildren welcomed by staff
Youth participation
Great youth group (Deb and Hal)
Family life
Positive in dealing with grief and loss
At funeral felt deeply and cared for and supported

Blessings - Discipleship: Personal Commitment & Shared Responsibility

“I have been able to participate in all kinds of service to the parish and to the local community. This has allowed me to grow as a person and to become closer to God.”

“I am grateful that the volunteer activities are organized so that I can participate according to my schedule and energy level.”

“A sense of elders working hard in their retirement to give back.”

“You have created a beautiful Church through which the Breath of the Universal Holy Spirit sings, and a robust sense of stewardship among the congregation.”

“It is an honor to volunteer.”

Blessings summarized in order of frequency
Being part of faith-filled community of disciples (contagious)
Vibrant faith-filled community of Christian service
Kindness (and generosity) of parishioners/Parish
Sense of stewardship in congregation
Contributions and donations to charity
Inspiring parishioners
Prayer and support for members and non-members
parish ministries
Blessed by being able to serve and help
Openness and encouragement for new ministries
Role Models all around – encouraging one to do more and spreading the faith
Belief in action
Being an example of Christ’s love
Strong Interfaith services and dialogue
Bringing guests
Deacon Patrick
Mercy and forgiveness
Good way of being Catholic
Prayer Line
Progressive faith community
Opportunities to experience Jesus
Parish Pastoral Council and Pastoral planning participation

Dreams - Liturgy & Prayer

Dreams summarized in order of frequency
more young families
more young adults
Charismatic masses
Healing masses
larger song numbers display
rides to mass
Fr. Romeo needs to improve his accent and pronunciation
keep being a warm & welcoming musical church
strong, relevant preaching
more in-depth homilies about being faithful citizens in our world today
social justice speakers at mass
to continue in prayer and knowledge of God
female leadership
robust children's liturgy
Youth choir
Healing Services during the day (Seniors)
more welcoming environment for young families
Sacrament of Reconciliation more available
Organize groups to attend local Marian retreats
Risen Christ image behind altar
increase volume for some lectors
More greeters, especially after mass
encourage parishioners to bring their Bibles to mass
video screens
Known open church times for personal reflection and prayer
large-print hymnals
Hearing aid link to sound system
copies of scripture readings made available
occasionally use "old-time religion" songs
hire a choir director

Dreams - Faith Formation

Dreams summarized in order of frequency
Evening Bible Study groups
Ongoing small faith-sharing groups
Young adult program
Evening adult education program
More youth programs
Classes to study Sunday readings before/after mass
Help me strengthen my faith
More social justice speakers
Theological and spiritual book discussion groups
Drop-in faith-sharing groups in the morning
Faith-sharing on current local, national and world issues
Improve facilities for children and youth
More vigorous RCIA program; entire parish as sponsors
Children's formation program growth
Religious education for families and children more structured
Summer camp
Summer youth field trips to local, fun places
Annual trip to Religious Education Congress

Dreams - Outreach

Parishioner involvement in projects (Habitat for Humanity)
Continue Social Justice commitment
Continue to be a progressive and outspoken witness
Improve service to poor
Improve affordable housing access
Build senior housing

Dreams - Community Life

“To see the parish continue to become an active embodiment of Christ’s love and to see this potential in all of humanity as He returns through the heart of each and every person.”

Dedicated social media presence to meet the needs of a growing world
More welcome, open and affirming for all people – Catholic and non-Catholic (youth, children’s programs, LGBT people, families, those in need)
More young adults involved with the parish (especially my own family)
Build up more participation (continued growth)
Serve the entire Community (not just Catholics)
Moms group for those with young children (with childcare) and for parents with teens
End of Life Preparations
Lay group to organize more pot-lucks and gatherings
Senior Art Ministry, lunch and scripture groups
Loss, grief and end of life ministry
Rides for the elderly
Outreach to those who have obstacles getting to church
Remodel and expand space, update kitchen
Formalize Welcome Ministry
Attract and nurture more young families and youth
More outreach to lapsed and non-Catholics
Embrace Queer and Transgender members
Cooking classes
Annual trip to Medjugorje for families and adults
Strengthen connection with Catholic schools
Singles group

Dreams - Discipleship:

Personal Commitment & Shared Responsibility

Provide for the Remodel of Markey Center: Larger conference room, more room for staff, improve the hall to a Parish Center. Update the kitchen, non-gender bathroom, good work space for ministry, staff and volunteers, sheltered area for people to sit outside
Contribute financially
Increase number of staff
Build structure for legacy giving, contributions to generate increased financial support, eg. Provide childcare, preschool, senior day care
Strategic (long term) mindset
Planned Giving
Build a financially secure parish
Communicate initiatives
Have parishioners –not staff- talk about stewardship to increase % of families giving and % of amount given
Create a gift shop to provide funds for retreats and pilgrimages
Have more bake sales—Easter?
Giving plans to support specific ministry expansion, such as Kid’s programs, permanent shelter, shower area
Communicate where money goes – ongoing parish operations
Serve the entire community
Develop a lay group to provide a personal “ask” --contact when help is needed
Meet with people who have new ideas
Show Up; Help when possible; Take a larger role in ministry
Opportunity for all to be involved
Join in—support, lead ministries and support groups
Weekend opportunities (projects) to serve
Be transparent: How is church structured? How are decisions made? Who is the Parish Council? Is there a teaching ministry team?
Have a retreat on how parents can serve the Parish community
More follow-through with Strengths Finder
Help me to identify my gifts and how to use them
Reminders of ways to discipleship: Prayer, Reading God’s Word, Getting involved
Be true to the teachings of the Church
Invite people to church
Be faithful to His Word
Live out the Life of Christ
Personally share with others about church and faith in Christ
Transform RCC to become all God wants it to be
Ownership—more participation by more people
Leadership Development
Personally invite seniors
Spread the Gospel and Joy of Jesus

How will we help to fulfill these dreams?

Doing my best to be an example of Christ's love in some form of service within the Church.

Share the joy and presence of the Lord as I greet and welcome people to Church.

Living out that same joy in everyday life.

Give money

Look at options for how parish governs itself.

I would like to help establish ongoing small faith communities.

Participate actively in the Women's Guild.

I offer to help where I can.

Continue to foster God's love in the community

Help the parish more

As a catechist, teach the children the love of God

I am considering taking the Strengths Finder survey

I would be willing to be part of a group to help find and acquire a crucifix for the upper wall behind the altar.

I would like to help the RCIA process grow.

I will support parish hall improvements.

I try to be involved in as many activities as possible.

I will reach out to new parishioners and share what I have found to be helpful to me.

I will donate time and money.

As a young adult, I will be an "ambassador" for the community to my friends.

Contribute items to bake sale and gift shop

Take communion to the homebound

Participate in workshops

Help coordinate parish activities

I would be willing to teach children's Liturgy of the Word.

I will be more open to supporting ministries and groups.

I will help start a singles group.

I will continue to donate my time and resources to the Church.

I see myself being active in supporting strong interfaith dialogue and relationship building.

Prayer and commitment

I will work with COPA on housing and transportation.

I want to continue my personal faith growth and my participation in community activities and outreach.

By striving toward divine union

Help out when I can and contribute financially

I will contribute to the hall renovation.

I will say good things about the church.

I will help with children's Liturgy of the Word.

I will stay true to the teachings of the Church.

I will pray and help when I can.

I could help with teens and senior art ministry.

I will become more involved in the parish as work and family responsibilities decrease.

I would like to become more involved in meaningful ministry.

I will increase my financial support each year, if possible.

I will continue to be involved in my current parish ministries.

How will we help to fulfill these dreams?

I would be happy to volunteer for more parish projects.

I would like to help establish a planned giving program for the parish.

I would like to help with leadership development, including Strengths Finder.

I would like to help welcome new members.

I will invite people to mass and to parish events.

I will continue to serve in the RCIA and Spiritual Direction ministries.

I would like to work with others in reaching out to those who are hurting and need to hear the good news of forgiveness.

I don't until I'm more informed and educated.

I am willing to help new choir members to feel welcomed and encouraged.

I sing, I smile, and I bring my grandchildren to church when their parents can't.

I will attend more church events and talk to others about our common dreams.

I will continue in my current ministries and support the Senior Ministry in any way I can.

I will give financial support to renovate Markey Center.

I will continue to "show up" and be faithful to God's Word.

I will continue to give financial support to the parish.

I will share my talents and heart as prompted by the Holy Spirit.

I will participate in parish events as possible.

I will be the Light of Christ for others.

I would like to contact parishioners directly for their help on specific ministries/projects.

I would like to help organize parish potlucks.

I will continue to grow in Faith, Love, Charity and Mercy and share these with others.

I will help plan and carry out the plan to continually help the parish become all that God wants it to be.

I will continue with my hands-on, activist ministries.

I will continue to serve and give financial support.

I will continue to be available to assist with the needs of the community.

I will stay active and involved with our community and address the issues at hand.

I would like to be part of the green energy commission.

I will continue to support the homeless and the needy.

I would like to be an example of God's love in some form of service in the Church.

I will continue to give my life for this faith community and for all who come here for help.

Trust in the Slow Work of God

Above all, trust in the slow work of God.

We are quite naturally impatient in everything to reach the end without delay

We should like to skip the intermediate stages.

We are impatient of being on the way to something unknown, something new.

And yet it is the law of all progress

that it is made by passing through some stages of instability

and that it may take a very long time.

And so I think it is with you.

Your ideas mature gradually – let them grow,

let them shape themselves, without undue haste.

Don't try to force them on,

as though you could be today what time

(that is to say, grace and circumstances acting on your own good will)

will make of you tomorrow.

Only God could say what this new spirit gradually forming within you will be.

Give Our Lord the benefit of believing that his hand is leading you,

and accept the anxiety of feeling yourself in suspense and incomplete.

- Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, S.J. (1881-1955)