



Chippewa Falls Catholic Community

Pastoral Plan - Fall 2022 Update

UNITED IN CHRIST, CALLED TO MISSION

First Phase 2021-2026

The Pastoral Plan consists of six general areas: Parish Organization, Faith Formation and Evangelization, Social Justice, Stewardship and Communication, Finances and Facilities, and McDonell Area Catholic Schools.

This update focuses on Finances and Facilities as well as Formation and Evangelization.

Finance and Facilities

Goal: Complete a facilities study by September of 2021 and devise a facilities master plan for all sites.

Holy Ghost and Notre Dame Parishes, along with MACS, contracted with Plunkett Raysich Associates (PRA) of Milwaukee to assist us in the planning process. The architects met with us, toured our buildings, and developed proposals. Even though St. Charles Borromeo Parish was not part of the process, consideration was given to their campus, particularly their school building. Last May, PRA gave three public presentations to our community of their findings and recommendations. Based on the feedback they received, they developed this report with revised options and recommendations for our parishes and schools.

What's next? It is important to note that this master plan makes recommendations for both the next few years, as well as the next decade or two. It is not our intent to accomplish all these things at once. For the immediate future, the report recommendations are most pertinent to elements of our parish campuses. I invite parishioners to study the report and consider what are the greatest needs for the future of our parishes. The study can be found at:

Our Lady of the Falls website - ourladyofthefalls.org/master-plan-intro

MACS website - mcdonellareacatholicschools.org/faith-service/meitler.cfm

Goal: Conduct a coordinated capital campaign as part of the Diocese of La Crosse campaign.

Our Diocese has embarked on the *Inspired By the Spirit* capital campaign in which all parishes will be participating to raise funds for both parish and diocesan needs. In this campaign, our city parishes are not directing campaign dollars to MACS school buildings. MACS will raise funds for school projects in a future campaign.

Holy Ghost, Notre Dame, St. Charles, and St. Peter are all running their campaigns in the first half of 2023. Anticipating that, feasibility studies and/or internal questionnaires will help determine the scope of the campaigns this fall. For Holy Ghost, this will likely concern the renewal of the church interior, as well as a few external projects. For Notre Dame, this will likely concern the future of the convent building, bathrooms and handicap accessibility for the Goldsmith Chapel, and possibly more depending on parishioner interest.

Faith Formation and Evangelization

Goal: Study if and how all religious education for children and youth can be coordinated through McDonell Area Catholic Schools (MACs).

The first exciting change is that the Chippewa Falls Catholic Community including Notre Dame, Holy Ghost, St. Bridget, St. Charles, and St. Peter combined forces for this year's program. Our hope is to have a greater Catholic unity in the city and to use our resources more wisely to serve you better. The second exciting change has been adopting a "hybrid" teaching model which includes a family learning portion and a traditional classroom portion. We didn't make this decision lightly; we know how demanding being a parent is. Our hope is to help your family grow in faith, while still taking some of the catechesis load off during the traditional classroom time. For more information on education programs for children and youth, you can review the Chippewa Falls Faith Formation website at chippewafallsfaithformation.net.

The Catholic community in the Chippewa Falls area has been working hard to implement the Pastoral Plan that was developed in early 2021. In an effort to be transparent with all parishioners and stakeholders, updates will be made available in parish bulletins and on the MACS website.

Everyone is encouraged to review the process, ask questions and get involved as we continue to grow our Catholic community



The complete Pastoral Plan, along with the reports and survey results that helped build the plan, plus this update can be found at <https://bit.ly/meitler>

Goal: Develop a total youth ministry for adolescents.

A new Chippewa Falls City Parish Youth Ministry Coordinator has been hired. This person works to ensure that dynamic and engaging youth ministry opportunities are available to all parish youth. They attend to administrative support of youth ministry, communication, and collaborate in the planning of events such as LifeTeen EDGE for middle school youth, Dead Theologians Society (DTS) for grades 9-12, Steubenville Summer Conference, and small group and faith sharing opportunities.

Goal: Establish a ministry for young adults in their 20's and 30's

Young adults are welcome to join the Chippewa Catholic Young Adults (the CCYA) as we grow in faith and friendship.

- **Source and Summit:** Event gathering dozens of young adults and offering Holy Hour, Happy Hour, and a connected community. Meets on the 1st Thurs. of every other month at the Church of Notre Dame and GREC St. Joseph Room (in the old Notre Dame school building). Upcoming dates are Jan. 5, and March 2.
- **Young Adult Community Nights:** Join other young adults every other month (on the months when Source and Summit is not scheduled) for a time to hang out and grow together in prayer and fellowship.
- **Lectio Divina for Young Adults:** A weekly Bible Study group where we read and discuss the Sunday Gospel readings. Meets every Thurs. at 7pm when Source and Summit is not scheduled.
- **Basketball for Young Adults:** Young Adults are invited to join the CCYA for Basketball every Wed. at 7:30 pm at the GREC Gym (in the old Notre Dame school building).
- **And special news** - Summer of '22 saw the opening of the St. Joseph House, a virtuous living community for young adult Catholic men. Residents (ages 18-35) benefit from regular community prayer, meals, leisurely time, and mentorship to form them to become life-long servant leaders for Christ and His Church.

Goal: Create faith sharing groups and/or retreat experiences for adults.

As of October 22, 2022 the following groups and/or experiences exist in the Chippewa Falls area Catholic Community and everyone is invited to attend even if they are not members of the hosting parish.

- **OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults):** Over the past years, we have developed a growing OCIA process, formerly known as RCIA, for those considering coming into the Church. This year, we have even more individuals (from all three of OLF parishes) participating in this process. Please pray for our 11 participants! Do you know anyone interested in the Catholic Faith?
- **OCIF (Order of Christian Initiation for Families):** We also have begun a special version of this process of becoming Catholic for whole families with adults and children together.
- **Mom's Group:** Meeting Thursdays 10-11:30 am, this group gives moms in the area the opportunity to connect while growing in Faith through book study and shared life. Children are welcome.
- **E.P.I.C.:** Join other parish families once a month for a potluck supper and a night of formation. While the kids are playing games, their parents take a deeper dive into their faith with inspiring videos and writings from a number of amazing sources.
- **Bible Study:** There are now two Bible Study groups, both meeting on Tuesdays at 9:30am at the Notre Dame GREC.
- **MACS Faith Boosters:** All families and staff of McDonell Area Catholic Schools are members of MACS Faith Boosters. Meetings are the second Monday of the month at 7:00 PM held at the McDonell High School Library.
- **Endow (Educating on the Nature and Dignity of Women)** is a small group format for women to study important papal and church documents, as well as writing from the saints. The goal is to build life-affirming relationships amongst women and help them discover their inherent dignity as well as their "feminine genius".

To learn more about any of these programs, reach out to your rectory or contact our hard working staff.

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