

Divine Savior Catholic Church

Strategic Plan 2020-2024



United in Love
DIVINE SAVIOR CATHOLIC CHURCH

July 2020

Our Mission

We, the people of Divine Savior Catholic Church, empowered by our baptism, dedicate ourselves to living the Gospel of Jesus. Inspired by the love, justice, and mercy of Christ, we are called to share His message in service, so that all may know the Savior!

Our Core Values

- ✝ Welcoming
- ✝ Outreach
- ✝ Spirituality
- ✝ Faith Formation for all Ages
- ✝ Communication/Transparency

Background

Prior Accomplishments

When parishioners were surveyed for our prior 5-year plan, three priorities were identified:

1. A warm, welcoming and safe environment
2. Ministry programs that:
 - Serve the needs of our parishioners
 - Provide hope to those in need from surrounding communities
 - Inspire parishioners to grow in knowledge of the Lord and follow Him more closely
3. Facilities that provide:
 - Intimate setting for prayer and adoration
 - Flexible space to accommodate meetings and children's activities
 - Adequate space for faith formation, educational programs, and social events.

To provide a warm, welcoming, and safe environment the following initiatives were completed: landscaping projects, vestibule beautification, enhanced hospitality following Masses, and additional greeters and ushers were added to the Masses.

Ministry services that expanded to serve parishioners included: Manna ministry, Ministry to the Homebound, Cultural Celebration and Prayer Shawl. Growth in services to our local

communities could be seen through St. Vincent de Paul, our Community Meal and Giving Garden, as well as Laundry Love, our Christmas Basket Ministry, and Loaves & Fishes. And our parishioners were motivated to grow their faith through Small Faith Groups, Reflecting on the Word, Rosary Group, Children's Music Camp, Youth Ministry, Children's Faith Formation, and occasional guest speakers or music events.

Lastly, we completed our Capital Campaign in 2019, paid off our debts and put aside seed money for future campus expansion. Also, monthly Building Fund offerings continued to help fund ongoing maintenance projects.

Planning Process for a New Strategic Plan

In 2019, under Fr. Roman's guidance, the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) created a Strategic Planning Committee to oversee the development of a new 5-year plan. In May 2019, the committee conducted a survey of the parish community to update our priorities. Over 300 parishioners responded, and four common themes emerged:

- More Parish Social Activities
- Outreach/Welcoming
- Social Justice
- Campus Development

Members of the PPC then led "Discovery Sessions" based around the four common themes to gather input and ideas from parishioners, as well as to identify leaders and volunteers to help with any new initiatives. Many excellent ideas were shared, and a variety of strategic initiatives are being started in each area.

2020-2024 Strategic Initiatives

Social Activities

We have more than 1400 families at Divine Savior. As our membership continues to grow, we want to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to get to know each other and feel a part of our community. By providing more social activities, we can:

- Help senior parishioners to build and maintain relationships
- Bring young families together
- Attract younger parishioners
- Provide activities and events based on demographics and/or cultural traditions

We will create a Social Activities Committee, which will identify and recruit leaders and volunteers to develop, plan, and organize the various groups and activities.

Outreach/Welcoming

From its early days, Divine Savior has been known as a community that welcomes everyone. As we continue to grow our parish, we want to welcome our new members and make them feel a part of the community right from the start. It is particularly important for the future of our parish that we attract and engage younger generations.

The objectives of this initiative are to:

- Create a structured welcoming process for new parishioners
- Hold events to attract new families and younger generations
- Reach out to all parishioners and invite them to participate in ministries of interest

We will create an Outreach/Welcoming Committee to oversee the planning and execution of this initiative.

Social Justice

As Catholics, we are challenged to help those suffering from injustice and inequality. At Divine Savior, we had a group of people serving for many years on a social justice committee that helped to develop ministries that serve the poor, advocate for the rights of the most vulnerable, and strive to educate and take actions to protect the environment. In 2018, as an action item developed because of a small group book study, we began serving a weekly Community Meal and started a “Giving garden” to provide some of the food for this meal. In two years, the program has grown to 185 volunteers who served more than 4,900 guests in 2019. As a community, we want to continue to seek new ways to address social injustices and inequalities, including:

- More services for the homeless
- More education and action around social justice issues

We will recreate a Social Justice Committee, which will review the work of the previous committee with an eye to what goals had been established but were not brought to fruition. We will also identify and develop new opportunities in collaboration with the various ministries addressing Social Justice.

Campus Development

With so many ministries, organizations, and events at Divine Savior, our facilities don’t always offer the appropriate space for our activities. Several areas were identified in our parish survey *for consideration*, including:

- New building with chapel and permanent, as well as flexible, meeting space
- More space for St. Vincent de Paul

- Indoor and outdoor space for young children that is secure and offers appropriate restroom facilities
- Better outdoor design with meditation areas for reflection/prayer (with shade)
- Continued growth of the garden
- More storage to accommodate community meal-**Completed**

A Campus Development Committee has been formed, which will provide oversight of the existing and future Divine Savior infrastructure initiatives. This includes maintenance, repair and replacement or development of new buildings. The committee will provide proactive leadership on all safety issues involving Divine Savior infrastructure, and act as a resource to the Divine Savior Plant Manager.



*"The Earth is the Lord's, and everything in it,
the world, and all who live in it." Ps 24:1*

All of life is a gift from God. We are all called to be good stewards of our gifts. A steward is someone in charge of something that belongs to someone else.

God wants us to put our gifts to use for others, however, we must first hear the call. Jesus instructs us to share our gifts in different ways. He calls us to share our time and talents in the service of others, and to share our treasure for the building of His Kingdom. How we respond to this calling and use our gifts, tells us what kinds of stewards we are becoming.

For this strategic plan to be successful, everyone in our parish community must hear the call to share their gifts of time, talent, and treasure. Our goal is to develop a Parish Stewardship program. We encourage each of you to prayerfully consider how you can become a better steward to help build and support our parish and our community.

"All must give as they are able, according to the blessings given to them by the Lord our God." Deuteronomy 16:17

To get updates about the Strategic Plan, go to
<https://www.divinesavior.com/communications>

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