

LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Parishioner:

How blessed we are with the abundance of opportunities and challenges in fulfilling our vocation in this time and place in history. We are a people gifted in faith and entrusted with sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ in the tradition of the Catholic Church. Our faith affords us the blessing of looking at how we can more readily bring the demands of the Gospel to our corner of the world. In short our faith shapes our vision and renews our mission as co-workers in the Lord's Vineyard.

At the urging of the lay leadership in our community and the encouraging support of our bishop, the parish staff set out to establish what our community should engage in over the next five years and beyond. To that end, a core team was established. They consulted the entire community for input. A diverse and passionate group of parishioners listened to all your input & synthesized it towards a mission and vision that will guide the direction of our parish plan so that we will be effective in our work of discipleship over the next five years.

This plan, in concert with our diocesan pastoral plan, "Renewing the Church," and our Capital Campaign is now before our entire community. This brochure contains a summary of the elements we will focus on. Clearly these elements call for our fullest cooperation, effort & leadership. The plan provides a direction so that we will realize all that the elements encompass.

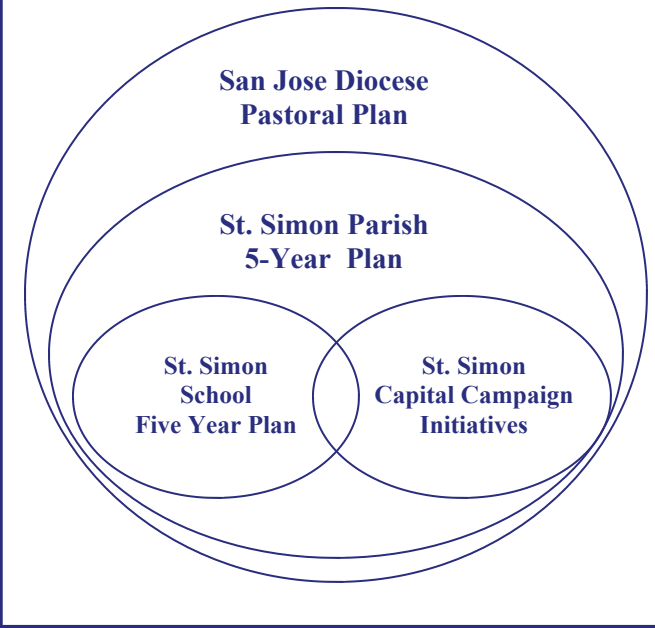
As co-workers I rely on you, and I am excited to join you one and all, for the work and witness that needs to happen in order to fulfill our mission as good stewards of our God-given gifts so that together we may truly be a community worthy and proud to be disciples of Christ and co workers in His vineyard.

Blessings, Fr Warwick James

HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?

There will be many opportunities for individuals to become involved in the plans and activities that will bring the St. Simon Catholic Parish Five-Year Plan into reality. Committed and faithful workers are needed in all areas of parish ministry. For more information about this plan or how you can get involved, contact the Parish Planning Committee or email rectory@stsimon.org

Our St. Simon Catholic Parish Five-Year Plan complements the overarching direction of the San Jose Diocesan Pastoral Plan. It honors/preserves the commitments made during our Rooted in Faith capital campaign and provides a framework for the St. Simon School Plan.



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SIMON
CATHOLIC
PARISH

SHARE YOUR VISION
ADD YOUR VOICE
CREATE OUR FUTURE



ST. SIMON PASTORAL PLAN
WWW.STSIMON.ORG

A BLUEPRINT FOR OUR FUTURE...

OUR MISSION

St. Simon Catholic Parish fosters Christ-centered discipleship through lifelong spiritual formation, open sharing of our gifts and active participation in our Church, schools and greater community.

OUR VISION

St. Simon Catholic Parish strives to...

- **Be a welcoming, dynamic and united faith community.**
- **Embrace a spirit of stewardship to generously share our time, talent and treasure.**
- **Achieve excellence in education**
- **Inspire profound faith and spiritual formation.**
- **Provide vibrant and engaged youth ministries.**
- **Celebrate relevant and inspirational liturgies.**
- **Serve others through compassionate personal outreach.**
- **Commit to social justice.**

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

After months of planning and feedback our community has identified six key areas to enable our vision. While these are not the only things we will do together, they represent the areas of ministry where we may have the greatest impact by devoting attention and resources to them.

Liturgy & Spirituality

St. Simon Parish shall be dedicated to celebrating liturgies that reflect who we are and who we want to become. We will...

- Celebrate liturgies and Sacramental Rites that are engaging and transforming.
- Strive to make our celebrations relevant to our community and our times through music and homilies.
- Touch individuals of all ages with dynamic spiritual formation sessions that nurture and grow their spiritual life.
- Provide ongoing process for gifts discernment and use of these gifts by individual parishioners for others.
- Offer a variety of prayer, devotions, scripture study, spiritual direction, faith-sharing, life skill presentations and retreat opportunities.

Community

St. Simon Parish shall build supportive community structures. We will...

- Foster a deep sense of welcome for new and current parishioners, especially those who feel marginalized.
- Invite parishioners to courageously and joyfully share their talents.
- Ground all parish events within a context of prayer, God's presence, and the mission of Jesus.
- Build connections among parishioners through social events inclusive of all generations.
- Actively bring about unity between our school and parish community.

Education & Faith Formation

St. Simon Parish shall be dedicated to excellence in Catholic education. We will...

- Provide the resources to ensure a parish school recognized for academic excellence.
- Provide an environment that fosters Christ-centered well rounded students.
- Offer intergenerational faith formation opportunities to inspire lifelong learning.
- Support families with nurturing faith-based activities and resources.
- Strengthen Sacramental preparation programs to encourage full and lasting participation in the life of the Church.
- Fully develop our Catholic Education Initiative*
- Apply and teach principles of stewardship throughout all education and faith formation programs.

Youth

St. Simon Parish shall attract, engage and retain youth in the life and leadership of the parish.

We will...

- Commit to youth by providing a Center for Youth in Ministry* as well as funding staffing, training, catechetical and spiritual resources.
- Support youth as they question their faith and develop their own strong Catholic identity.
- Celebrate meaningful and visible roles for youth in the parish.

Outreach & Social Justice

St. Simon Parish shall root our faith in concrete action. We will...

- Attend to the pastoral needs of our parishioners who are in vulnerable stages of life.
- Advocate for those in need in our community and beyond.
- Evangelize through visible and tangible good works.
- Build a deeper understanding of Catholic social teaching and a greater commitment to act for social justice.
- Develop, support and carry out a parish-wide outreach plan.

Organization and Resources

St. Simon Parish shall ensure that all programs and organizational structures align with our vision.

We will...

- Assess, update and maintain our campus infrastructure to meet our ongoing needs
- Evaluate existing ministries to ensure that each aligns with our vision; revitalize, reorganize or eliminate as appropriate.
- Provide lay leadership training to meet the needs of ministry and parish life activities.
- Develop and staff a communication strategy that informs, builds community and invites participation.
- Generate innovative solutions to parishioner's time constraints to allow broader participation in our parish community.
- Leverage resources and apply best practices through collaboration with other Catholic churches and faith communities.
- Implement the Church Building Technology Enhancements.*
- Implement School Improvements: Technology, Science And entrance upgrades.*

*Rooted In Faith Capital Campaign Initiatives.