

# Our Lady of Perpetual Help 2008 Pastoral Plan

## Introduction

In support of the Archdiocesan Synod and the needs of our Parish, a Pastoral Council was formed on February 13, 2007. It includes the Pastor, five appointed members (3 women, 2 men) and one ex-officio member.

## Purpose of the Pastoral Council

The Pastoral Council is a leadership body to assist the Pastor by prayerfully discerning the direction of the Parish in the agreed-upon seven essential elements of parish life seen as being relevant to today's parish environment:

1. Worship
2. Evangelization
3. Teaching
4. Fellowship/Community Building
5. Service
6. Stewardship
7. Leadership Development

## Reorganization of Parish Ministries

In the past year, the ministries of the parish were organized into areas of focus:

### **•Liturgy Ministries**

·Ministry of the Word  
·Hospitality Ministry

·Eucharistic Ministry  
·Altar Servers

·Music Ministry  
·Altar Guild

### **•Faith Formation Ministries**

·Youth Ministry  
·Baptism

·Spiritual Enrichment  
·Children's Liturgy

·RCIA  
·PREP

**•Social Justices Ministries**

- Extreme Weather Team
- Development & Peace
- St. Vincent de Paul
- Catholic Health Association of BC
- Food Bank

**•Parish Life Ministries**

- Pastoral Care
- Craft Group
- Catholic Women’s League
- Madonna Group

**Goals and Objectives within the Seven Essential Elements of Parish Life**

*~Element One – Worship~*

**Goal 1:**

Enhance liturgy celebrations through increased spiritual understanding and full active participation.

**Objectives:**

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| 1. Form a liturgical committee to develop the parish liturgical life by November 2007   |
| 2. Hold planning meetings with coordinators of the liturgy ministries to coordinate celebrations of Christmas and Holy week as well as regular Sunday Worship by January 2008 |
| 3. Conduct 6 lector workshops to improve proclamation of the Word by new and current members within a year  |

**Goal 2:**

Introduce new strategies to encourage our youth to become more involved and included in parish life.

**Objectives:**

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| 1. Maintain Youth Mass and pre-Mass activities  |
| 2. Support youth participation in World Youth Day (WYD)   |
| 3. Designate 2 Masses for PREP students to help them relate to what they are learning with Sunday worship |
| 4. Continue the Children’s Liturgy Program during the 11:00 am Sunday Mass                                |
| 5. Continue the Family Mass for families with young children on the first Sunday of each month at 9:00 am |

*~Element Two – Evangelization~*

**Goal 1:**

Preach, teach and affirm that the task of evangelizing all people constitutes the mission of our Parish.

**Objectives:**

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| 1. Continue the vibrant RCIA program by incorporating the liturgy into the faith journey of the candidates. Encourage family members or friends to attend weekly RCIA classes as supporters |
| 2. Hold 3 public sessions of spiritual enrichment   |
| 3. Continue the Advent and Taizé events to create more opportunities for parishioners to reflect on the liturgical seasons  |

*~Element Three – Teaching~*

**Goal 1:**

Develop educational programs that challenge and encourage parish members to increase their faith. Use these programs to prepare parish members for leadership positions and ministerial coordination responsibilities.

**Objectives:**

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| 1. Encourage parishioners to attend courses offered by the Office of Religious Education to develop lay leaders |
| 2. Identify appropriate liturgical music workshops for parishioners to attend                                   |
| 3. Encourage liturgy related training courses for parishioners  |
| 4. Build a well trained team of committed catechists for the RCIA program                                       |

*~Element Four – Fellowship/Community Building~*

**Goal 1:**

Develop hospitality, education and prayer to ensure community among all parishioners and to enable new parishioners to be welcomed within the parish.

**Objectives:**

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| 1. Provide an opportunity for members of each Ministry to meet socially once a year for sharing and mutual encouragement |
| 2. Plan a weekly opportunity for catechumens to encounter other parishioners and be assimilated into the parish family   |
| 3. Continue the current practice of gathering for coffee after the 9:00 am Sunday Mass                                   |

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| 4. Widen the Hospitality Ministry's responsibilities to all parish events |
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| 5. Establish a Parish Communications Ministry by February 2008 |
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*~Element Five – Service~*

**Goal 1:**

To hear and heed the Church's call to serve those in need and to work for justice and peace.

**Objectives:**

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| 1. Build social justice activities into more aspects of the ministries |
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| 2. Dedicate an emphasis on service and stewardship as a constitutive element of our RCIA program |
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| 3. Support the WYD 2008 through fund raising activities |
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| 4. Maintain current practice of PREP conducting their 2 annual service activities |
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*~Element Six – Stewardship~*

**Goal 1:**

Foster a culture that inspires a spirit of generosity and provides opportunities for stewards to share their time, talents and treasures within the parish and the community.

**Objectives:**

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| 1. Conduct two spiritual enrichment workshops geared to encouraging good stewardship within the parish |
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| 2. Invite all ministry coordinators and others to call forth individuals to share their time, talents and resources within the parish and community |
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| 3. Establish a categorized data base of stewards |
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*~Element Seven – Leadership Development~*

**Goal 1:**

Pastoral Council and Finance Council to become effective bodies that assist the Pastor in visioning, planning, empowering and evaluating parish programs and initiatives in light of the parish vision and mission.

**Objectives:**

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| 1. Conduct an envisioning session focused on the perceived future direction of our parish |
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| 2. Identify and establish a data base of members of our parish who evidence |
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potential leadership capabilities

**Goal 2:**

Keep parishioners up-to-date on all parish activities and future plans including opportunities for parishioners to voice their opinions and concerns.

**Objectives:**

1. Introduce, install and bless the Pastoral Council, the Finance Council and the Parish Education Committee to the Parishioners on November 4, 2007 at the 11:00 am Mass

**Goal 3:**

Continue the delegation of administrative duties begun in 2006 to free the Pastor for spiritual leadership.

**Objectives:**

Confirm the administrative procedures put in place a year and half ago with hiring of our Parish Administrator

**Goal 4:**

Conduct feasibility study to determine the possibility for a Parish Centre to provide for office space and administrative / ministry needs.

**Objectives:**

1. Assess the needs of the parish community and the concerns of neighbors in close vicinity to the Church by June 2008
2. Develop approaches for building neighborhood and citizen consensus toward a new Parish Centre if need is shown by September 2008