



PROGRESS REPORT

JULY, 2024 – JUNE, 2025

PASTORAL COUNCIL

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY...TOGETHER IN CHRIST

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In 2024, the Pastoral Council developed a three-year plan centered on the theme "Together in Christ." The plan includes two main objectives: (1) to enhance unity, stewardship, and communication within the parish community, and (2) to engage with the larger Lexington community through expanded charitable activities. Significant progress was made in the initial year which will serve as a foundation on which to build during the next two years. This report provides an overview of the advancements made thus far on each of the four goals.



- GOAL 1:** Provide increased opportunities for parishioners to engage and interact with each other in a welcoming, safe and inviting environment.
- GOAL 2:** Organize and promote increased participation in charitable works of mercy.
- GOAL 3:** Increase the number of parishioners providing stewardship to the church.
- GOAL 4:** Design a functional communication plan that reflects feedback from parishioners and provides timely and relevant information to all parishioners.

GOAL 1: Provide increased opportunities for parishioners to engage and interact with each other in a welcoming, safe and inviting environment.

Objectives	Current Status	Accomplishments
Plan and conduct a minimum of two parish-wide events that build a welcoming and supportive environment among Hispanic and non-Hispanic parishioners.	Ongoing	Opportunities this year have included Our Lady of the Rosary Feast Day celebration with Mass, covered dish dinner and DJ; Our Lady of Guadalupe celebration with Mass and cultural program, St. Patrick's Day Dinner, Day of the Child celebration, and the Hispanic Dinner and Dance. A parish-wide picnic is currently being planned for October 2025.
Research options for providing Conversational English and Conversational Spanish classes for parishioners to increase their ability to communicate with each other.	Partially Completed	<p>A Conversational Spanish class was conducted in the Spring, 2025 for English speakers to improve their ability to communicate with our Hispanic parishioners.</p> <p>Plans are currently being made with Davidson-Davie Community College to provide Conversational English classes for our Hispanic parishioners.</p>
Explore options for providing childcare assistance so more adults can participate in parish liturgical activities.	Completed	The St. Vincent de Paul Youth Ministry had 11 youth complete the certified Red Cross babysitter training. These trained youth will serve as babysitters during special liturgical events.

Plan and conduct a minimum of three well-attended liturgical events (e.g., retreats, breakfast spiritual speakers, devotionals, prayer stations, etc.)	Partially Completed	Special liturgical events have included the Christmas Carol Service, the Hispanic Lenten Retreat, Lenten Stations of the Cross, and the Evangelization Lenten Program. To encourage unity and inclusiveness, the six holy days of obligation for 2025 are bilingual along with The Paschal Triduum. The Council is currently exploring more viable options for the coming months.
Create a unity prayer to be recited at each Mass.	Completed	The Pastoral Council has created a unity prayer that will be recited at the beginning of Mass following the announcements. Projected start date is June.
Form a committee of parishioners to address health and safety issues in and around the church and parish center.	Future start date	This item will be addressed in summer/fall of 2025.

GOAL 2: Organize and promote increased participation in charitable works of mercy.

Objectives	Current Status	Accomplishments
Develop an annual calendar of Charitable Works of Mercy (food drives, Socktober, Backpack Program, Alpha Pregnancy, Angel Tree, clothing drives, Blessing Box,	Completed	A Community Outreach Calendar was completed and posted to the church website. You can view it here . It will also be inserted into a Sunday bulletin, Parishioners will be asked to commit to three

Objectives	Current Status	Accomplishments
etc.) to help parishioners better track their donations.		charitable works of mercy/year during Joyful Gifts...Joyful Giving month in September.
Create a system to ensure that the OLR Blessing Box is kept full throughout the year.	Completed	The St. Vincent de Paul Youth Ministry has volunteered to manage the Blessing Box as one of their ongoing activities. They will keep the Blessing Box clean and assist with placing food and other items into the box. Additionally, Our Lady's Guild purchased a cube storage unit in Rosary Hall that can be used to neatly store Blessing Box donations.
Become a more active partner with local churches and human service organizations that are serving the poor and homeless in the Lexington area.	Ongoing	Pastoral Council members are in touch with area human service organizations and local churches to increase our service and broaden our reach.

GOAL 3: Increase the number of parishioners providing stewardship to the church.

Objectives	Current Status	Accomplishments
Designate a particular month as “Joyful Gifts...Joyful Giving” to focus on the importance of giving your time, talents, and treasures to the church.	Partially Completed	September, 2025 has been designated as <i>Joyful Gifts...Joyful Giving</i> month. Leading up to September, every Sunday bulletin between June and September will include examples of how parishioners can get involved. The church’s website has been updated and now includes a navigational bar titled “ <i>Serve,</i> ” which includes brief descriptions of liturgical ministries, community outreach projects, church volunteer opportunities, and evangelization and discipleship organizations. Online and hard copy stewardship forms have been developed for parishioners to commit their service in September.
Conduct an annual ministry fair with all stewardship functions represented to encourage additional volunteers.	Planning underway for September	A stewardship fair will be held in September where parishioners can ask questions about the various liturgical ministries, community outreach projects,

Objectives	Current Status	Accomplishments
		church volunteer needs, and evangelization and discipleship organizations. Parishioners will also be encouraged to complete their stewardship form at this time and commit to at least three stewardship activities for the coming year.

GOAL 4: Design a functional communication plan that reflects feedback from parishioners and provides timely and relevant information to all parishioners.

Objectives	Current Status	Accomplishments
Gather feedback from parishioners (through in-pew survey) to see what kinds of church social and liturgical events they prefer to attend.	Completed	Online and hard copy surveys were distributed in February 2025; 124 parishioners responded. Results were included in the bulletin and are posted on the church website here .
Develop and distribute an online and in-pew survey to determine parishioners' communication preferences (e.g., email, texts, church bulletin, website, Facebook, parish app, church announcements,	Completed	Online and hard copy surveys were distributed in February 2025; 124 parishioners responded. Results were included in the bulletin and are posted on the church website here .

Objectives	Current Status	Accomplishments
etc.) for receiving various types of church-related information.		
Using the results of parishioners' communication preferences survey, develop a communication plan to govern parish communications and establish processes and responsibilities for content contributors.	Completed	<p>The Pastoral Council convened a Communications Committee to analyze the survey results and develop an efficient and comprehensive communication plan. Designated leads were assigned for each communication channel, including the website, church bulletins, church announcements, emails, text messaging, parish app, signage, and Facebook. The church subscribed to a text messaging platform and will distribute "opt-in" forms for parishioners who wish to be notified of important church announcements via text message. Additionally, the Pastoral Council is trying to expand communication through other avenues as well including the development of a narrated power point presentation on the strategic plan and a brochure providing a summary of the direction the Council is taking. A Council member will also begin welcoming new parishioners and providing a Council update once a month during church announcements. At that time, Pastoral Council members will also be present in the Narthex after Mass to answer any questions parishioners might have.</p>

Pastoral Council Members

Our Lady of the Rosary would like to thank the current members of the Pastoral Council for donating their time and talents to the church. The Pastoral Council is an advisory leadership body that assists Father Sabastian and the Parish staff in discerning the needs of the Parish and, by recommending strategic goals and priorities, guides the Parish in fulfilling its mission as a Christian community. It is a consultative body whose policies and decisions require the authority of the pastor to become effective. Its function is established under the Pastoral Council guidelines of the Diocese of Charlotte.

Kevin Bertelsen, Chair

Jim Mach, Vice-Chair

Kathryn McLendon, Secretary

Donaciano Corona

Patricia Farner

Maryzabel Hernandez

Orla Kelly-Rajan

Ann Kolb

John Lombardi

Esperanza Rincon

Brandon Shriver

Holly Turnage

Father Oscar Benavidez