

# NH Catholic Implementation Team



**January 18, 2023 Meeting**

# Meeting Agenda



- Welcome, Prayer, Opening Remarks: Fr. Ryan
- SWOT Review, Recommendations/Next Steps: Anna Festa - St. Michael Parish
- Ministries, Programs, Events & Feasts: Ilsa Otero-Resto – St. Anthony Parish
- Summary Remarks: Fr. Ryan
- Future Meetings: Fr. Ryan
  - February Formation Meetings
    - *Fr. Ryan will meet with Parish Representatives and their Pastors*
    - *Retreat – Saturday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, Saint Thomas More*
  - March 22<sup>nd</sup> (Operational Components - Financial, Canonical, Lay Leadership)
  - April 26<sup>th</sup> (TBD)
  - May 24<sup>th</sup> (TBD)
  - June 21<sup>st</sup> (Appointment of a City-Wide Parish Council)
- Adjourn

**S**trengths, **W**eaknesses,



**O**pportunities & **T**hreats



# **SWOT Subcommittee**

New Haven Catholic Implementation Team



# Strengths

- Traditions
- Diversity
- Community involvement
- Financial stability
- Neighborhood roots
- Vibrant/Welcoming



# Weaknesses

- Unwillingness to change
- Cultural identification
- Lack of attendance
- Parking
- Priests spread thin



# Opportunities

- Unified parish
- Reach out to other ethnic groups
- Advertise on social media
- Outreach (new development)
- Inform public of parish ministries
- Include diverse groups
- Expand Social Justice
- Adult faith formation
- Parking
- Lay person social events
- Transportation

# Threats



- Parish closings
- Loss of parishioners and collections
- Taking away visibility of only Afro-American parish
- Loss of community/traditions
- Parishioners leaving for non-Catholic churches/establishments
- Priest changes
- AOH bringing constant change
- Parishioners feel unheard
- Lack of transparency = mistrust
- Racism - lack of inclusion
- Youth faith
- Finances managed
- Loss of sacramental opportunities and special services due to demand on priests
- Priests becoming administrators vs shepherds





# Subcommittee Top SWOTs

- Transparency/communication
- Traditions
- Racism
- Archdiocesan trust
- Liturgical and cultural differences
- Religious Education
- Not heard by AoH
- Youth recruitment/retaining young parishioners
- Diversity/equity inclusion



# **Subcommittee Results**

Tasked with identifying 3-5 items for each SWOT



# Strengths

- Traditions/Community involvement
- Liturgical and cultural differences
- Religious Education



# Weaknesses

- Religious Education
- Racism/Cultural identification
- Change
- Attendance
- Transportation/Parking/Handicap accessibility
- Lack of clergy/Priests spread thin



# Opportunities

- Outreach (new developments)  
Evangelization/Reach out to other ethnic groups
- Welcoming
- Parking/Transportation/Handicap accessibility
- Adult and youth formation
- Layperson social events
- Racism/social justice/Cultural ID/Inclusion
- Include the youth in this group



# Threats

- Transparency, communication, lack of trust in AoH, not heard by AoH
- Finances - need further discussion and understanding
- Loss of parishioners - attracting youth through youth and adult formation. Parishioners going to other denominations.
- Racism - lack of inclusion
- Lack of Priests

# Organizations, Ministries,



# Events & Feast Days



# Summary of Findings

## Thirty Eight (38) unique organizations/societies - e.g.,

- St. Michael - St. Andrew and Saint Mary Magdalene Societies
- St. Martin - Knights of St. Peter Claver & Ladies Auxiliary
- St. Stanislaus - Holy Name Society & The Society of St. Gregory
- St. Mary - Knights of Columbus & Frassati Young Adult Ministry
- St. Anthony - Grupo Charismatic & Grupo de Santa Ines
- OL Guadalupe - Social Justice & Hermandad del Senor del Los Milagros





# Summary of Findings

## Common Devotions

- Ministry of Lector
- Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist
- Acolyte Ministry
- Religious Education Ministry
- Social Justice Ministry
- Music Ministry

## Unique Ministries

- St. Martin - Thanksgiving Baskets & Family to Family Christmas Sharing
- St. Stanislaus - Polish Saturday School
- St. Mary - The McGivney Project, Communion & Liberation (*ecclesial movement*)



# Summary of Findings

## Various Special Feast Days and Events - e.g.,

- St. Michael - St. Ann Triduum & Feast of St. Catello
- St. Martin - ML King Day, Black History Month, & St. Martin Feast Day
- St. Stanislaus - Feast of St. Stanislaus
- St. Mary - CT Mass for Life & Feast of Bl. Michael McGivney
- St. Anthony - Feast of St. Ines & Feast of St. Anthony
- OL Guadalupe - Feast of St. Francis of Assisi and Feast of Nuestra Senora de Guadalupe



# Summary of Findings

## Inferences/Implications for NH Catholic Parish

- Tremendous opportunities for sharing and learning from one another
- Cultural and spiritual richness among our parishes provide opportunities to grow spiritually and to expand our cultural awareness
- Common ministries will allow us to serve in churches other than our own
- Many challenges lie ahead, but with these challenges comes growth

# Questions

