



PASTORAL PLAN

Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Santa Clarita, California

Our Lady of Perpetual Help



Our Lady of Perpetual Help is the patroness of our parish. In this elegant rendering of the classic icon, one can see the sweep of Our Lady's arm offering the very love of God, Jesus Christ, to the world. The positioning of Mother and Child reveals this love by forming the hint of a heart. There is great tenderness between the figures as Our Lady prays and offers Perpetual Help to the Body of Christ. The child is either returning his mother's glance or peering out at the viewer, inviting a response and offering hope!

– Monsignor Dick Martini, Pastor



Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

What a joy it is to present our first Pastoral Plan! It is the fruit of several months of seeking God's help and discerning God's will for us as a parish.

Our Mission Statement captures the essence of our parish's spirit and purpose. The short, memorable phrase inspires us to live up to its amazing call.

May those who encounter us benefit from the love, prayer, and hope we offer in Christ.

As you read and pray over this plan, it is my hope that your heart will leap at one point or another and that you will feel the Spirit suggesting how you can participate. There is a role for each of us. If we undertake the challenges of this plan, we will fulfill our mission to Offer Love, Prayer, and Hope!

God Bless,

Msgr. Dick Martini

Monsignor Dick Martini
Pastor

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Our Mission

Promoting the mission of Jesus Christ, we...

Offer

Love

Prayer

Hope

Begin with us on Sunday!

From your Pastoral Council...

It is with pride that we support the enclosed Pastoral Plan. As members of our parish's Pastoral Council, our role was to offer recommendations and suggestions for the development and implementation of the plan.

There are many concerns and needs in our parish community. We were challenged to think about what we value most as a parish to help determine our priorities. We knew a council of ten could not best decide these priorities, but certainly the parish as a whole could inform us of what was needed most at OLPH. We commissioned a "Visioning Team" whose members represented the parish and could address the future direction of our church.

In this Visioning Team, we were blessed with a group of dynamic individuals who displayed an incredible level of enthusiasm and hope for our parish. With the guidance of Dr. Steve McSwain, the team's deliberations resulted in a focused set of ideas, visions, values, and goals. This team worked many hours putting our hopes and dreams for OLPH into this plan in a way that all could understand and embrace.

Once organized on paper, the plan was presented to the parish community for feedback. This input was crucial for the team, our council, and our pastor. We all studied the feedback, prayed about it, and included it in this plan. We ask for your continued comments as you use this plan so it may be continually improved for the benefit of all.

May we embrace these words, work together, and realize what it is that begins on Sunday!

—Members of the OLPH Pastoral Council 2012



Our Vision

At Our Lady of Perpetual Help, it all begins on Sunday!

We gather to thank God for the gift of life and love.

Transformed by God's Word, the Eucharist, and our Catholic tradition, we aspire to welcome Jesus Christ into our hearts and to hear and express His message in our everyday lives.

During the week, we seek to deepen our relationship with Christ through prayer, ministry, and works of charity.

May all who encounter us find hope as they experience what it is that begins on Sunday.

We have articulated a Vision Statement. In five short sentences we not only state what we do as a Catholic parish, but we also imagine what we might become.

Our Core Values

- WORSHIP** We gather together to thank God for the gift of life and love
- EDUCATION** We impact lives with God's Word through our parish school, faith formation programs, and liturgy
- COMMUNITY** We are enriched by our fellowship, strengthened by our differences, we are one body in Christ
- SERVICE** We extend God's love through ministry and works of charity
- STEWARDSHIP** We provide and care for our facilities to serve current and future generations
- SOCIAL JUSTICE** We allow the light of the Gospel to guide us in meeting the needs of the poor, the ill, and the marginalized
- RESPECT FOR LIFE** We affirm the sacredness of life from the moment of conception through natural death
- HOSPITALITY** We welcome all to God's home with kindness and generosity
- TRADITIONS** We encourage the inheritance of our Catholic faith from one generation to the next
- PRAYER** We respond to the awareness of God's presence, and we trust in the intercession of His mother, Our Lady of Perpetual Help

We have identified our core values. May the Holy Spirit assist us in living up to them!



Our Pastoral Priorities

From among the many visions in this plan, our parishioners determined three pastoral priorities.

○ **WORSHIP**

Vision: Mass Brings Relevancy and Energy to our congregation, engaging us to celebrate on Sunday and live the Word of God all week long



● STEWARDSHIP

Vision: We Provide and Maintain expansive facilities, parking, and grounds in order to fulfill God's vision for OLPH

● COMMUNITY/FAMILY LIFE

Vision: OLPH is One Faith Community with a strong identity, respectful of all peoples, and all language and cultural differences

Pillars of our Mission

We determined that six pillars or principal areas of ministry are essential to the life and vibrancy of our parish. The Pastoral Plan envisions ways in which we might live up to the will of God in each of our foundational ministries or pillars. We call these “visions,” in the sense of seeing what the Lord could make of us – of seeing what we could be at our best. These visions speak to our dreams and aspirations. The “goals” for each vision are tangible and measurable ways in which we make the visions living and real.

PILLAR 1 – WORSHIP

VISION ~ Mass brings relevancy and energy to our congregation, engaging us to celebrate on Sunday, and live the Word of God all week long.

GOAL ~ Research and implement 3 to 5 strategies to increase the level of the assembly's participation in the liturgy to 50 to 75% of our congregation at any given Mass by Advent 2013.

COORDINATION: Associate Pastor and Parishioners

GOAL: ~ By Advent 2012, propose 5 to 7 best practices to aid preachers in applying their homilies to the daily lives of parishioners, and then implement one to three of those best practices by Easter 2013.

COORDINATION: Pastor, Director of Hispanic Ministries, and Parishioners

PILLAR 2 – STEWARDSHIP

VISION ~ We provide and maintain expansive facilities, parking, and grounds in order to fulfill God's vision for OLPH.

GOAL ~ Revitalize and maintain parishioner energy and commitment to the building of a new church for the next three years.

COORDINATION: Pastor, Construction Committee, and Parish Promoter

VISION ~ OLPH is committed to affirming, training, and equipping members for their active involvement.

GOAL ~ Devise, coordinate, and host 1 to 2 ministry fairs each year for the next 3 years.

COORDINATION: Liturgical Volunteer Coordinator and Ministry Leaders

GOAL ~ Provide training and continuing formation for all liturgical ministry volunteers for the next 3 years.

COORDINATION: Liturgical Volunteer Coordinator and Ministry Leaders

GOAL ~ The ministry coordinator will devise and implement a Ministry Recognition program by June 2013.

COORDINATION: Liturgical Volunteer Coordinator and Ministry Leaders

PILLAR 3 – COMMUNITY/FAMILY LIFE

VISION ~ OLPH is one faith community with a strong identity, respectful of all peoples, and all language and cultural differences.

GOAL ~ Create a public relations program for the parish by January 2013.

COORDINATION: Parish Promoter and Director of Hispanic Ministries

GOAL ~ Sponsor 2 to 3 parish events each program year, beginning in the Fall of 2012 that promote unity.

COORDINATION: Associate Pastor and Parishioners

GOAL ~ Publish 50% to 75% of parish information in Spanish for three consecutive years.

COORDINATION: Director of Hispanic Ministry, Parish Office Staff, and Parishioners

VISION ~ People feel welcomed and encouraged to get involved.

GOAL ~ Research, develop, and implement 3 to 5 strategies between Fall 2012 and Fall 2014 to welcome parishioners and guests to Mass and other church related events.

COORDINATION: Pastor, Associate Pastor, and Team from Usher and Greeter ministries

GOAL ~ Develop and implement a New Parishioners' Welcome Program by September 2013.


COORDINATION: Parish Promoter and Parish Office Staff

VISION ~ OLPH will communicate regularly and effectively through a variety of media.

GOAL ~ Revise the parish website by January 2013.

COORDINATION: Associate Pastor and Technology Team

PILLAR 4 – SERVICE

 **VISION** ~ In the spirit of Mary, the Mother of Perpetual Help, our faith community will be committed to providing a network of prayer, care and support for the poor, the ill, and the marginalized.

GOAL ~ Expand the bereavement team to between 10 and 20 people over the next 3 years and train them in order to assist those grieving the loss of a loved one during their time of need.

COORDINATION: Associate Pastor and Parishioners

GOAL ~ Train office staff in the care and support of the poor, the grieving, the ill, and the marginalized when contacts are forthcoming.


COORDINATION: Pastor

GOAL ~ Increase by 20% to 30% the number of those who minister to homebound parishioners once-a-week by December 2013.

COORDINATION: Liturgical Volunteer Coordinator and Parishioners

GOAL ~ Coordinate the network of intercessors who offer prayer on behalf of and to those who ask by Fall 2013.

COORDINATION: Pastor, Deacon, and Parishioners

 **VISION** ~ OLPH will be an informed community of faith that is involved in spiritual, social, and moral issues.

GOAL ~ For three consecutive years, increase by 33% the number of volunteers from the parish who assist local non-profit programs that are aligned with the spiritual, social, and moral teachings of the Catholic Church.

COORDINATION: Pastor, Deacon, and Parishioners

GOAL ~ Facilitate at least one (1) humanitarian trip per year, outside of the Santa Clarita Valley, to include both adults and youth, by December of 2013.

COORDINATION: Parish Promoter, Director of Hispanic Ministries, and Parishioners

GOAL ~ By December 2013, implement two to five methods of keeping our community of faith informed of current spiritual, social, and moral issues that call for us to take action.

COORDINATION: Pastor, Director of Hispanic Ministries, and Parishioners

PILLAR 5 – EDUCATION

VISION ~ Beyond Sunday Mass each week, OLPH will provide creative opportunities for education and faith formation.

GOAL ~ Identify the strengths and weaknesses of our youth education programs by Spring of 2013 and implement three to five strategies for improvement and/or enhancement beginning in Fall of 2013 and extending through 2014.

COORDINATION: Associate Pastor, Director of Religious Education, School Principal, Director of Hispanic Ministries, and Parishioners

GOAL ~ Increase participation in small group faith sharing opportunities by 100 to 200 people over the next 3 years.

COORDINATION: Associate Pastor, Director of Religious Education, Director of Hispanic Ministries, Adult Formation Team, and Parishioners

VISION ~ OLPH will provide programs and events as enrichment opportunities to the parish.

GOAL ~ Organize 2 to 3 parish educational events to bring the community together each year for the next three years.

COORDINATION: Associate Pastors, Director of Religious Education, and Director of Hispanic Ministries

OLPH School is a major part of our parish. They are commissioned to engage in a visioning process during the 2012 – 2013 school year in which they will produce their own plan.

PILLAR 6 – EVANGELIZATION

VISION ~ OLPH will seek ways to welcome all who are estranged from the faith and those who wish to come to know Jesus Christ.

GOAL ~ Invite 30 to 50 estranged Catholics to rediscover and return to the faith over the next three years.

COORDINATION: Pastor and Evangelization Team

VISION ~ The enthusiasm for our Catholic faith engenders the desire to share that faith with others.

GOAL ~ Train 15 to 30 adults each year for evangelization ministry.

COORDINATION: Associate Pastor, Evangelization Team, and Parishioners

Acknowledgments

Our parish wishes to thank all those who developed our Pastoral Plan

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The Pastoral Council

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The Visioning Team

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