

# **Ave Maria Catholic Parish Strategic Plan**

## **(2025 – 2028) Version 6.0 – Revised 11/9/25**

### **Vision Statement**

To Provide Ave Maria Catholic Parish members, visitors, and potential members, with a level of Community, Message, Worship, and Service that exceeds their expectations, and identifies a benchmark for vibrant parish life.

### **Mission Statement**

Provide a vibrant, faith-filled Catholic Parish where all are welcome to participate in our Community, Message, Worship, and Service.

### **Values Statement**

Focus on Jesus Christ, Catholicism, Respect for People, Parish, Leadership, Communication, Enthusiasm, Teamwork, and Continuous Improvement.

### **Scope**

Our scope is: Ave Maria Parish members, visitors, and potential members. Support of Diocese *(3 Essential Principles)*

### **Parish Goals**

1. Create and maintain a parishioner sense of belonging.
2. Create a team-oriented environment that fosters parishioner's desire to participate.
3. Continuously improve our effectiveness.
4. Identify and measure the quality and quantity of our efforts.
5. Help our parish grow

**Diocese 3 Essential Principles** – *Re-Acquire a Biblical Worldview, be a Family on Mission together, Restore the Initiative to God*

**Pillar #1 – Love & Support a Unified Presbyterate On Mission** - *(Supports priests and holiness & creates a culture for priestly vocations)*

- Support goal through prayer both in and out of masses
- Alter Server Ministry – Expand to include more youths (Men's group to investigate and plan)

**Pillar #2 – Build Disciples to be sent on a mission** (*Raise and equip disciples for Mission, Cultivate and nurture an environment to serve the common good*)

- Men's group activities including Coffee & Donuts following the second Sunday of each month after to 8:30 Mass at St. Mary's
- Men's group meetings
- Women's group activities
  - Blood Drives
  - White Elephant Sales
  - Baby Bottle Drive
  - Easter Baskets
  - Communal Anointing of the sick
  - Book Sales
  - Ice Cream Socials
  - Giving Tree Program at Christmas time
  - Volunteer Appreciation Dinners
  - Funeral Lunches
  - Project Blessing (Lexington & Carsonville)
  - Bach Concert Series
  - The Women's Society – 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday each month
  - Easter & Christmas Baskets for Shut-ins
- Homebound Ministry – Communion for those who cannot attend mass
- Prayer Chain
- Lenten Soup & Stations of the Cross
- Bible Study
- Vacation Bible School
- Adoration
- Retreats
- Blessing of the Throats
- Blessing of the Fleet
- Blessing of the Pets
- Chime & Church Choirs
- Grief Recovery Program
- Blessing of the Ushers
- Advocate for an annual session(s) on the biblical world view and the importance of Jesus Christ, e.g. The Rescue Project #2 at St. Denis

**Pillar #3 – Go and Retrieve the Lost Sheep** (*Find the Lost Sheep, Form the Evangelizers, Heal those struggling in their lives, Lead Lost Hearts to Conversion*)

- International Food Festival Annual Implementation for the Local Community to expose families to Ave Maria Parish (rotating between St. Mary's and St. Denis Church properties)
- Complete annual electronic and paper surveys to parishioners evaluating thoughts on opportunities for improvement and what is done well
- Knights of Columbus support in the community including Friday Evening Fish Fries open to the entire community
- Communications including weekly Parish Bulletins, Parish Website, My Parish App, Parish Facebook Page