Building Bridges to the Heart of the Community

To draw people to Christ through our parish communities, leading them to live as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Our Desire

Belonging within the community makes a difference!
How? Questions We Ask

First step: Meeting Needs

- How Can We Grow?
- Do I Belong?
- What Do I Give?
- What Do I Get?

Fourth step: Mission!
Third step: Being part of the community
Second step: Making a contribution
First step: Expectations & Needs

As a member of my parish, I know what is expected of me

What expectations are communicated to your parishioners? How?
What is a Covenant?

In the Bible, the primary way in which God has relationship with humanity is through a covenant.
What Does a Covenant Entail?

- Agreement between two parties
- Ongoing commitment
- Focus
- Renewal

Renewal

Requires:

What does a Covenant entail?

Renewing Our Covenant

Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium ¶ 3

“I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting him encounter them. I ask all of you to do this unfailingly each day. No one should think that this invitation is not meant for him or her, since ‘no one is excluded from the joy brought by the Lord’. The Lord does not disappoint those who take this risk; whenever we take a step towards Jesus, we come to realize that he is already there, waiting for us with open arms. Now is the time to say to Jesus: ‘Lord, I have let myself be deceived; in a thousand ways I have shunned your love, yet here I am once more, to renew my covenant with you. I need you. Save me once again, Lord, take me once more into your redeeming embrace’.”
WHAT is a Covenant?

WHY have a Covenant?

HOW do we create a Covenant?

WHY? A Covenant solidifies our Commitment to Live as Disciples in Community.

A Covenant clarifies Expectations...

Research shows knowing “expectations” is a key factor in building an ENGAGED community.

A Covenant strengthens the commitment around what one gets and what one gives.
Value for every person as a child of God

Conviction that parish life matters

Recognition that each of us is called to full participation in the life of Christ

Share a desire to reach people with the love of God through our interactions with one another

Commitment to invite every person to be his or her true and best self

Leaders who understand their roles as servant leaders who call people to serve based on their gifts and talents

People are sent forth desire to live as Christian disciples and stewards in their daily lives
Acts 2:42-47

“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came before everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common... Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.” (Acts 2:42ff)

At St. Anne’s: 4 Pillars Emerged

WORSHIP
To deepen our relationship with Christ and his Church, through prayer, Mass and the sacraments

CONNECT
To deepen our relationship with the Church body, one another, by getting to know one another

SERVE
To deepen the image of Christ in us by making Him who came “not to be served but to serve.” To practice “acts of love.”

GROW
To deepen our spiritual life, and our faith and knowledge of Christ through learning and spiritual growth opportunities
What St. Anne’s Gives

WORSHIP
- Daily opportunities to go to Mass
- Holy Week
- Eucharistic Adoration

CONNECT
- Community Events all throughout the year
- Welcoming environment

SERVE
- 23 ministries
- 7 specific actions to help the underserved
- Supporting St. Anne and the community financially

GROW
- Faith Formation for Children
- Faith Formation for Adults
- Small Christian Communities
- Lenten Bible Series

Expectations Were Clarified

WORSHIP
- Attend weekly mass
- Attend Holy Days
- Go to reconciliation at least once a year

CONNECT
- Welcome someone at mass and offer to learn where you come from
- Volunteer in hospitality after mass
- Attend one St. Anne social function

SERVE
- Spend 1-2 hours a week volunteering
- Volunteer at special events
- Reach out to larger St. Anne Community

GROW
- Attend Faith Formation
- Attend at least one special lecture or event

Step Three: The Commitment
What are the expectations of your:

Leaders
Parishioners
Visitors

Expectations Were Clarified

WORSHIP
- Attend weekly mass
- Attend Holy Days
- Go to reconciliation at least once a year

CONNECT
- Welcome someone at mass who I do not know
- Offer hospitality after mass
- Attend one St. Anne social function

SERVE
- Spend 1-2 hours a week volunteering
- Volunteer at special events
- Reach out to larger St. Anne Community

GROW
- Attend Faith Formation
- Attend at least one special lecture or event

Step Three: The Commitment
What are the expectations of your:

Leaders
Parishioners
Visitors
Step Four: The Duration

Step 5: Sign/Symbol/Logo

- Magnets
- Yearly Renewal Card
- Return Self-Addressed Envelope

Covenant Sunday
Let’s Focus
What are you wondering about? What questions do you have?

Parish Culture Catalysts: 
Spark Living Discipleship in Community

- Worship: Spark living faith through prayer, Mass and the sacraments
- Connect: 
- Serve: 
- Grow: