

Breathing New Life into the Church

**“Developing a 5-Year Plan for Spirit
of Christ Catholic Community”**

September 13, 2008

Spirit of Christ Catholic Community
Arvada, Co

**Goal I: That SOC
be a place of
welcoming and
inclusion**

Objective I-1:

To gather as community for communal prayer in the Spirit Center before evening meetings begin and at other appropriate times to gather as community for communal prayer.

Objective I-2:

To provide opportunity to gather after Masses by offering coffee and donuts or some other similar incentive.

Objective I-3:

To provide awareness of upcoming events and to invite people to those events using any appropriate means of invitation.

Objective I-4:

To enthusiastically and proactively greet people coming into the SOC building at all doors for Sunday liturgies and in the evenings before meetings.

Objective I-5:

To reach out to those communities that are not well represented at SOC such as, the gay community, the Asian and other ethnic minority communities and to create a sense of celebration of various cultures.

Objective I-6:

To provide immediate access to a wide range of information, registration, etc., to people on Sundays during the Mass times by staffing the SOC office on Sundays or by other effective means.

Objective I-7:

To make youth feel welcome and included by making youth announcements at all Masses, not just at the youth Mass, or by other ways of bringing about welcoming and inclusion.

**Goal II: That SOC
expand liturgy and
spirituality**

Objective II-1:

To provide meetings and groups a common prayer based on the following Sunday's Scriptures

Objective II-2:

To promote a greater love and reverence for the Eucharist within the SOC community, for example, through adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, parish-wide Eucharistic celebrations, etc.

Objective II-3:

To expand the concept of One-Nighters with a focus on increasing the diversity of speakers/topics and to increase the number of participants, for example through:

- Bible studies
- Vatican II documents
- Basics of the Catholic faith for adults
- Teaching on the forms of prayer
- Parent nights to teach the teacher
- Seasonal extras for Advent and Lent
- Explanation of the Sacraments

Objective II-4:

To develop, contribute to and disseminate a monthly newsletter that is spiritually based with substantive spiritual articles

Objective II-5:

To provide retreat experiences for the SOC community

Objective II-6:

To offer praise, worship and testimony liturgies

**Goal III: That SOC
build community**

Objective III-1:

To sponsor social events that gather people together, for example:

- Coffee and donuts after Masses on Sundays
- Christian concerts
- Retreats and days of reflection
- Parties
- Sporting event outings (e.g., baseball games)
- Annual parish picnic with outdoor Mass

Objective III-2:

To formally recognize volunteers with volunteer appreciation events

Objective III-3:

To invite high school aged youth into SOC to form community by offering lunch or other similar incentives

Objective III-4:

To work with local neighborhoods, civic and religious groups to build community, for example by:

- Developing and offering informational packets on how to organize and hold a block party
- Re-energizing and re-committing to the Arvada Ecumenical group

Objective III-5:

To organize and support groups coming together for a single activity, such as reading the same book, and then offering opportunities for group discussion, real or virtual.

**Goal IV: That
SOC provide life-
long faith
formation**

Objective IV-1:

To expand the concept of One-Nighters with a focus on increasing the diversity of speakers/topics and to increase the number of participants, for example through:

- Bible studies
- Vatican II documents
- Basics of the Catholic faith for adults
- Teaching on the forms of prayer
- Parent nights to 'Teach the Teacher'
- Seasonal extras for Advent and Lent
- Explanation of the Sacraments

Objective IV-2:

To re-energize all sacramental preparation, for example by:

- Use of the domestic church
- Use of small groups (and Small Church Communities)

Objective IV-4:

To make better use of the website for spiritual growth and development.

Objective IV-5:

To increase participation in life-long faith formation activities.

**Goal V: That SOC
be a place of
outreach for peace,
justice and charity**

Objective V-1:

To show a preference for the poor, for example by:

- collecting items for the poor and disenfranchised at all large SOC gatherings
- raising the awareness of the needs of the poor that exist here in Arvada

Objective V-2:

To promote Catholic social teaching on peace, justice and charity issues

Objective V-3:

To create outreach opportunities for all parishioners, including young adults, to get involved in peace, justice and charity activities

Objective V-4:

To support the Church's social teaching on the sanctity of life for example by re-establishing and supporting the SOC Respect-Life Committee or by other means

Objective V-5

To advocate for inclusivity of the marginalized in our community and society, for example: the physically or emotionally challenged, gays and lesbians, and the formerly incarcerated.