

# St. Benedict Catholic Church



## Five Year Pastoral Plan

The vision for our Catholic presence in the Falcon area can be best seen in the five year Pastoral Plan of our faith community. In keeping with the Diocese of Colorado Spring 2005-2010 Pastoral Plan, it focuses on five goal areas; faith formation, evangelization, stewardship, social ministry and leadership development. Of which, Bishop Michael Sheridan said, "As we promulgate our goals, I am confident that they express the plan that Jesus himself laid out for us in the Scriptures and in the teachings of his Church. Our faithful movement toward these goals will lead us to be a truly authentic and vibrant local Church."

### Faith Formation

In the course of the next five years, we will provide education in the faith for the people of St. Benedict at all stages of life

- We will follow the developed standards of the diocese which are flexible curricula utilizing common concepts and language, for adults, for those preparing for sacraments, for parents, for those entering the Church, for young adults, and for elementary, junior high and high school student in both Catholic and public schools. We will make available comparable programs for any special needs Catholics of our Parish.
- Where possible we will offer our faith formation in whole family / whole community catechists programs.
- We will seek to promote and educate in the full, active and conscious participation in the Church's liturgy, especially in the Mass and the Sacrament of Penance.
- We will continually develop the catechetical leadership in our schools, programs and ministries of effectively convey the truths of the faith and to promote the spiritual development of the St. Benedict Catholic Community.
- We will continually work to increase participation in the faith formation programs.

### Evangelization

In the course of the next five years St. Benedict Parish will increase in the number of Catholics who are willing to enthusiastically share their faith with others. We will educate our community to be knowledgeable and able to communicate their beliefs, the practices of the Church, and their own faith experience through dialogue with others.

- St. Benedict's Parish will:
  - Seek to be open and welcoming to others.
  - Have outreach programs specific to the needs of inactive Catholics as well as to non-Catholics and to the needs of the community.
  - Engage in ecumenical programs that provide Catholics the opportunity to share their faith and beliefs.
- St. Benedict's Parish will seek to have a significant increase:
  - In the number of inactive Catholics reconciling with the Church and returning to practice their faith.
  - In the number of converts to the Catholic faith.

## Social Ministries

In the course of the next five years, there will be a significant increase in the understanding and appreciation by all Catholics of the social teachings of the Church and in participation in social outreach programs throughout St. Benedict's Parish.

- We will strive to increase the number of committed individuals to advocate for and initiate sustained action for social ministry, especially directed towards the unborn, the aged and the economically poor.
- Each year we will give priority to a different need and build the capability during that year for sustained ministries for that area of need.
- We will work towards increasing participation of young people in service projects sponsored by the parish.
- We will continue to be a welcoming and caring community to the poor and needy
- We as Catholics' respect the dignity of the human person from conception to natural death and will continue to foster that respect with support of programs within the Parish and Dioceses.

## Stewardship

In the course of the next five years, St. Benedict Parish will encourage every Catholic to grow in living stewardship more fully as a way of life-sharing God's gifts.

- We will seek each year to increase the number of volunteers to staff the ministries and initiatives with our parish.
- We will increase the knowledge of the benefit of tithing for the Church.
- We will continue to support the Diocesan Annual Appeal and will continue to help fund Diocesan ministerial efforts.
- We will establish a successful planned capital campaign.
- We will continue to anticipate and respond to the needs that emerge in our growing Parish, especially the need for welcoming new parishioners and developing catechetical instruction.

## Leadership Development

In the course of the next five years, St. Benedict Parish will have developed capable, committed leadership of all types at all levels to enable the achievement and continued support of the Parish's goals in faith formation, evangelization, social ministries, and stewardship. Of particular emphasis will be prayer for the increase in men and women to the religious life. Toward this end, we will develop a Vocations Committee that actively seeks out individuals interested in the priesthood, the diaconate or religious life.

The four tracks of particular planning for leadership development will be clergy, laity, youth and community.

### **St. Benedict Catholic Church**

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