St Eugene Catholic Church
Asheville, Diocese of Charlotte, NC

Our Mission & Vision



November 2026

How did we get here?

Listening, consulting with pastoral teams and prayerful consideration.

- We began with active participation in the Parish's Synod Conversation (2023-2024)
- The synod output, along with data on the parish and its Ministries was used to develop an initial draft of our Vision/Mission Plan (March 2025)
- Following Fr. Sabastian's year of listening, a revised Vision/Mission Plan was developed, keeping the Synod Conversation in mind, but adding new Strategies and Action Plans for the Parish



"You are the body of Christ and individually members of it."

1 Corinthians 12:27

Our vision

A hopeful picture of the parish we are becoming.

We seek to build a welcoming and vibrant community of intentional disciples who love Christ so much that they share Him with others.

Our vision answers: What kind of parish do we hope to become?

St. Eugene is a faith community,
animated by the love of God and neighbor,
that welcomes all,
irrespective of their backgrounds,
and through education, spiritual programs, and sacraments,
brings them to the fullness of life in Christ
and form intentional disciples to serve God
in the Church and the wider community

Our mission answers: Why do we exist, and whom are we called to serve?

Our Action Plans

Five plans to help us achieve our mission

Welcoming Space

Create a welcoming atmosphere, a safe and conducive space for spiritual growth

Sacraments

Bring all people to the Sacraments

Education

Education, catechizing and re-evangelization

Retreats

Retreats / Spiritual programs

Charity

Christian charity and service

Action Plan 1 – Welcoming Space

Create a welcoming atmosphere, a safe and conducive space for spiritual growth

GOAL

To welcome all, irrespective of their backgrounds, to a safe and conducive space that fosters spirituality and community

CURRENT STATE

- Welcoming and growing community
- Very diverse, both backgrounds and stages of life
- Homebound and active parishioners
- Limited room for future expansion, construction and parking
- No changes have been made to the sanctuary area since the church was built in 1959

ACTIONS / POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

- Recognize new members at mass
- Events to attract non-churchgoers
- Dinner twice a year to welcome new members
- Welcome flyer
- Renovate the Church
  - Restructure sanctuary
  - New ceiling
  - New pews
  - Replace roof
  - Improve parking
- Improve integration between Hispanic and Anglo communities
- Increase green space percentage by purchasing available empty lots around the campus

Action Plan 1 – Welcoming Space

Detailed List of Actions and Possible Solutions to Obstacles:

- Accept people as they are without judging and endeavor to care for them according to their unique situation.
- Hold a welcome /meet-and-greet dinner twice a year to welcome new members and introduce them to the opportunities.
- Recognize new members to the Parish at weekend Masses once a month.
- Organize an event to attract non-churchgoers and introduce ourselves to our community.
- Make a welcome flyer that gives highlights of St. Eugene parish life available at the foyer for new members and visitors.
- Look for solo attendees and engage them in conversations and activities and follow up with them to support their integration.
- Receive warmly and continue to help parishioners that are returning to the faith.
- Create a welcoming space by maintaining the Parish facilities and structures.
- Redesign and renovate the Church and the sanctuary area to allow for more capacity, greater functionality and enhanced appearance.
- Increase our green space percentage for future external construction or expansions that best serves the needs of parish by purchasing the available empty lots around us.
- Reach out to non-attending parishioners.
- Grow a contact list from event attendees, separate from the formal Parish registration system, to reach out to more people.
- Offer social opportunities after mass once a month.
- Review the Parish parishioner list and encourage people to register.
- Conduct a Capital Campaign to raise funds.

Action Plan 2 – Sacraments

Bring all people to the Sacraments

GOAL

To cultivate the love for the Sacraments and the habit of regular participation in the Sacraments, especially, Eucharist, Reconciliation, and Anointing of the sick when appropriate

CURRENT STATE

- Four masses – English (2), Spanish, bilingual
- Reconciliation sessions twice per week, Lenten services and as requested
- Anointing of the Sick as requested
- Faith Formation for both youth and adults

ACTIONS / POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

- Update bulletin with information about Sacramental offerings and procedures for receiving
- Find ways to support those in irregular marriages that may prevent regular receipt of the sacraments
- Initiate conversations with those considering vocations
- Publicize a Sacramental resource list

Action Plan 2 – Sacraments

Detailed List of Actions and Possible Solutions to Obstacles:

- Provide adequate information in the Bulletin about Sacramental offerings at the Church and the procedures for receiving them.
- Work with the marriage coordinators, Diocesan Annulment Sponsors, and other resources to find ways to support those in irregular marriages.
- Identify weekends for the Priest, Deacons, parents and grandparents to initiate conversations about considering vocations to the priesthood and religious life.
- Take advantage of Vocation Sunday to engage young people to consider religious vocations.
- Encourage our parishioners to be open to talking about receiving the sacraments.
- Clergy members, who notice those who do not receive the Eucharist, will engage them in conversation.
- Facilitate religious discussion to include Sacramental topics and gatherings.
- Develop and publicize a Sacramental resource list.

Action Plan 3 – Education

Education, catechizing and re-evangelization

GOAL

To bring people to the fullness of life in Christ and form intentional disciples through Christian education, catechizing and re-evangelization

CURRENT STATE

- Faith Formation for youth and adults
- OCIA and other adult education is offered
- Full-time Director of Religious Education

ACTIONS / POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

- Conduct Faith Formation awareness and enrollment campaign in the summer
- Hire a Young Adult Coordinator to lead education and re-evangelization opportunities
- Develop notices to advertise each Parish ministry and hold an orientation sessions once a year
- Provide more adult education opportunities
- Conduct a summer Vacation Bible School
- Organize parish-wide seminars on different themes or subjects at least twice a year
- Ensure compliance of CMG requirement for volunteers

Action Plan 3 – Education

Detailed List of Actions and Possible Solutions to Obstacles:

- Conduct Faith Formation awareness and enrollment campaign in the summer to boost attendance.
- Hire a person (a Young Adult Coordinator) to lead and coordinate education and re-evangelization opportunities.
- Request each Ministry develop notices to advertise their ministry and update existing members. Also request they hold an orientation or training session once a year.
- Provide education opportunities focused at different categories of adults.
- During each summer we will organize and conduct a Vacation Bible School
- Organize parish-wide seminars on different themes or subjects at least twice a year.
- Expand and maintain the use of social media.
- Ensure compliance of CMG requirement for volunteers.
- Promote family involvement in activities.
- Encourage the use of parishioner-led classes, on-line resources, and external facilitators to augment education.
- Encourage parent participation when enrolling children in programs.
- Perform audit of compliance of CMG requirement for volunteers.
- Promote family involvement in activities.

Action Plan 4 – Retreats / Spiritual Programs

Retreats / Spiritual programs

GOAL

To deepen the faith and spiritual life of parishioners and bring them to the fullness of life in Christ and intentional discipleship

CURRENT STATE

- Lenten soup / sustenance / educational program
- Advent program to worship with other local Christian churches
- Weekly rosary sessions
- Eucharistic Adoration opportunities

ACTIONS / POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

- Each Parish ministry conduct retreat for members
- Bible study programs
- Improve awareness to invite all community members to activities and events

Action Plan 4 – Retreats / Spiritual Programs

Detailed List of Actions and Possible Solutions to Obstacles:

- Conduct an Advent and Lenten retreat each year.
- Encourage ministries to organize a retreat for their members.
- Offer a Bible Study program(s).
- Reach out with announcements, flyers, signs, and social media to invite all community members to our activities, education offerings, and events.

Action Plan 5 – Charity

Christian charity and service

GOAL

To promote a faith community that is animated by the love of God and neighbor to serve God and humanity

CURRENT STATE

- Supporting different charities
- Annual food drive to support Catholic Charities
- Names of the deceased are inscribed on the altar cloth in prayerful remembrance and displayed during November
- Assist families with Christian burial Mass, celebration of life in Christ, and receptions
- Annual program to honor military and veterans

ACTIONS / POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

- Leverage Spiritual and Corporal works of mercy for all charity practices
- One weekend each month, give 10% of collection to charitable causes
- Expand the columbarium to offer additional opportunity for catholic sacred ground
- Adopt a foreign mission to support

Action Plan 5 – Charity and Service

Detailed List of Actions and Possible Solutions to Obstacles:

- One weekend each month we will use 10 percent of our collection for charitable causes.
- Continue to appeal to parishioners for canned food/drink donations for the poor.
- Contribute to organizations offering shelters for the homeless.
- Continue to expand service to those in need with hospital ministry, the Angel Tree program, Mom's in Need, the prison ministry, blood drives, and other efforts.
- Expand the columbarium to offer families and parishioners the options of burying their loved ones in a catholic sacred ground. Assist them with Christian burial Mass, celebration of life in Christ, and luncheon receptions after the service.
- At the All-Souls' Day service, continue to inscribe the names of the deceased on the altar cloth in prayerful remembrance.
- Continue our yearly program to honor our military and veterans.
- Adopt a foreign mission to support.
- Ensure our donated resources are used wisely and focused on the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy.

How can you help?

Many parishioners are needed take an active role in one or more solutions to achieve these goals

Examples include:

- Coordinate welcome dinners for new members
- Develop New Member Flyer
- Coordinate Vacation Bible School
- Coordinate an adult bible study group
- Help to help audit that all volunteers have completed CMG program yearly
- Develop regular bulletin announcements to improve education about the sacraments
- Coordinate Advent or Lenten retreats
- Volunteer during annual food drive activities
- Help inscribe deceased names on the altar cloth

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Scan to send email to St
Eugene Pastoral Council

OUR RESPONSE

Let us walk together in faith.

Pray. Participate. Welcome. Serve.

“Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations.” • Matthew 28:19