ST. GABRIEL CATHOLIC CHURCH
2026-2035





STRATEGIC PLAN

Prepared for the parish of St. Gabriel
8901 Winterpock Road, Chesterfield, VA 23832,
www.saintgabriel.org

Dear Friends in Christ,



Proverbs 29:18 states: “Where there is no vision, my people will perish.”

Having a strategic plan allows the best our parish has to offer and promotes areas of growth. Where are we and where do we want to be as a parish?

Through the able instrumentality of the parish staff, the councils – pastoral and finance and some individuals, especially Prof. Jim Haug, Mr. Dan Boyce, Mrs. Nancy Wilson, Ms. Susan Yost, Mr. Michael Hadank, and I, your humble servant, the St. Gabriel community is ready with a strategic plan to guide us towards a brighter future with Christ as the beginning, the bedrock and the focal point. WE ARE READY WITH NEW VISIONS: new sets of plans, new strategies, new resolutions. It is proper that we appreciate what the Lord has accomplished in all of us in the past.

Our goal is to encourage everyone to exhibit God-given talents and work together as a team. I would like to acknowledge the good work of my predecessors and, together with my council members and the entirety of parishioners, pledge to do our best as a family to grow in faith, in love and in the service of the Lord to enhance the good image of St. Gabriel Parish in the community.

It is my fervent prayer that God grant us a spirit of hope, fortitude, perseverance and courage to carry on our call mandate.

With gratitude and appreciation,

Rev. James Boachie, Pastor

July 2024 - Present

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Pastor's Message ..... Page i

Table of Contents ..... Page ii

The Process and People Behind the Plan ..... Page 1

Strategic Planning Process ..... Page 2

Vision and Mission Statements ..... Page 3

SWOT Analysis ..... Page 4

(Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats)

Strategic Themes ..... Page 5

1. Discipleship and Spiritual Growth
2. Worship
3. Ministry Involvement
4. Parish Social Life Experience
5. Measurement and Accountability

Appendix A –

St. Gabriel Parish Organizational Structure ..... Page 6

THE PROCESS AND PEOPLE BEHIND THE PLAN

The St. Gabriel Strategic Plan has been developed to identify and define a clear direction for the parish. The plan is designed to **prioritize parish-wide initiatives** and **allocate resources**, both fiscal and personnel.

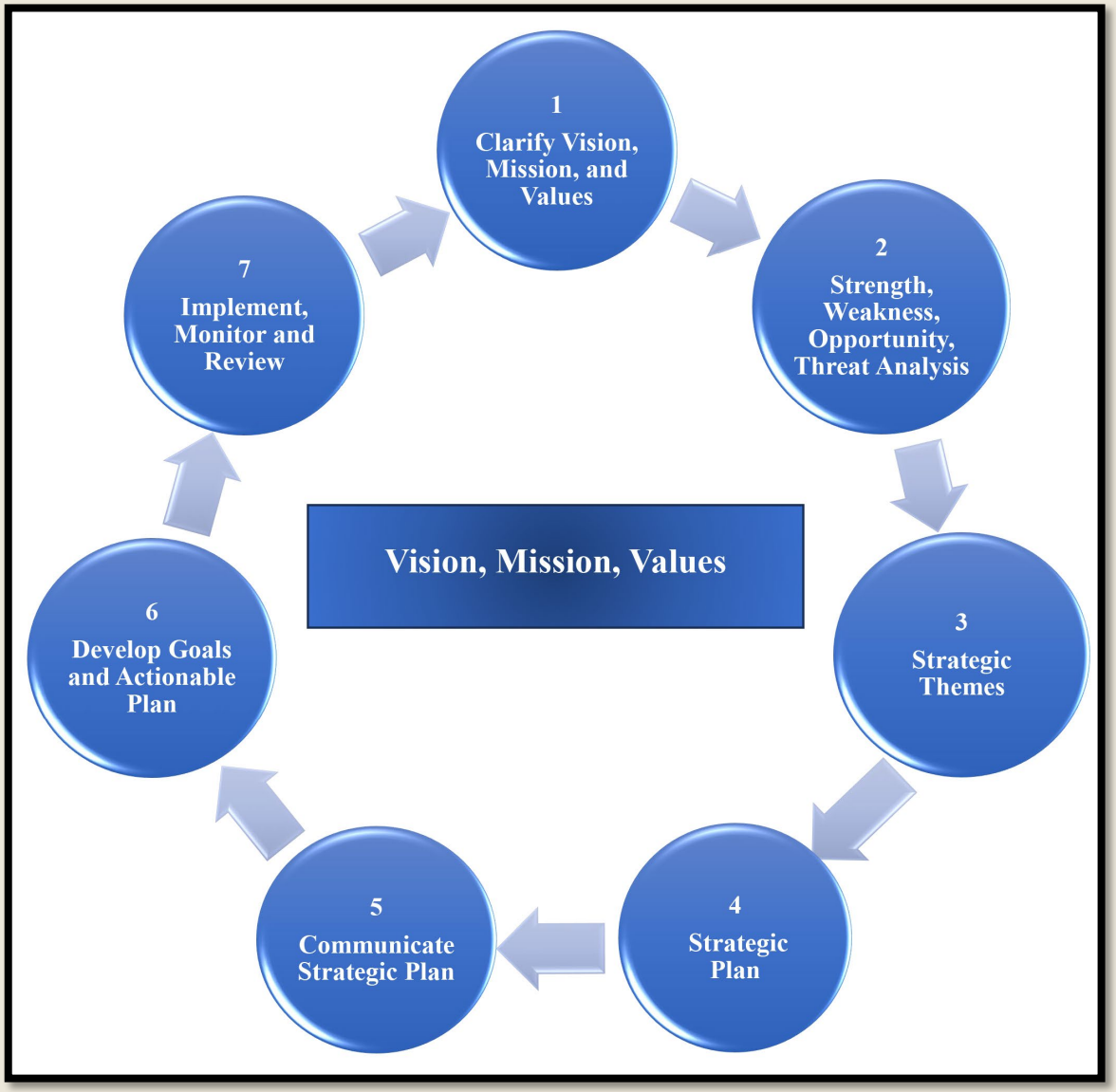
Although the strategic plan is not a direct result of the parish input on the Synod of Synodality, data gathered during the Synod process has been incorporated to identify the **Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT)** to our parish.

Five strategic themes and priorities have been identified in the plan:
1) Discipleship and Spiritual Growth; 2) Worship; 3) Ministry Involvement;
4) Parish Social Life Experience; 5)Measurement & Accountability

The strategic plan is the result of a **collaborative effort** by committed parishioners representing the St. Gabriel community. We pray that the plan will be embraced by the parish community and implemented by all for continued growth of our parish!

The strategic plan is for the **period of 2026-2035**. This is a **living document** that will evolve as external and internal circumstances dictate and will help us achieve our ultimate call as true disciples of Christ.

STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS







VISION

The community of St. Gabriel strives to be a welcoming and dynamic Roman Catholic community with the Eucharist at the center of parish life. By sharing our spirituality, we are united through prayer and action in the service of God, reaching out to those in need in our community and beyond.

MISSION

St. Gabriel Parish proclaims Christ, makes disciples and glorifies God through the Eucharist and Sacraments. All are welcomed to promote God's glory. Our faith is anchored in prayer and Sacraments of the Church; nurturing the faith of all, supporting the sick, supporting those in need, and looking outward with a concern for justice and peace.

SWOT ANALYSIS

St. Gabriel Parish identified the following through situational analysis and assessment

STRENGTHS:

Positive attributes to St. Gabriel that are within our control

- Quality of pastoral leadership, councils, ministries and staff.
- Devoted and dedicated volunteers that lead and sustain our many diverse ministries.
- Located centrally to an area of rapid growth.
- Sacramental preparation and spiritual development programs.
- Convenient Mass times and ample parking.
- Strong written communication and publicity.

WEAKNESSES:

Internal factors within our control that impede our ability to meet our objectives.

- Lack of a permanent worship space for liturgical celebrations.
- Lack of permanent, adequate and sufficient meeting rooms and office space to support faith formation, meetings or groups.
- Shortage of volunteers and staff.
- Lack of finances to support current budget needs for staff or growth.

OPPORTUNITIES:

External factors that St. Gabriel should (or could) develop.

- Increase in the number of households.
- Continued collaboration with other local church groups.
- Embark on community outreach to raise our profile in the area.

THREATS:

External factors beyond our control that could place the church at risk.

- Changing social attitudes toward organized religion and increased secularization of society.
- Departure of parishioners for churches of other denominations in the area.
- Parishioners' ability to choose their parish independent of location.

STRATEGIC THEMES

I. Discipleship and Spiritual Growth

Objective 1 – To establish the parish as a focal point of Christian discipleship and provide opportunities for continued spiritual growth.
Objective 2 – To provide an environment where all ages feel accepted, connected and eager to deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ.

II. Worship

Objective 3 – Encourage parishioners to discover they have a calling to actively participate in the liturgical life of the parish.

III. Ministry Involvement

Objective 4 – Create an environment for all parishioners to recognize the need for lay involvement, promoting and nurturing active participation in ministry.

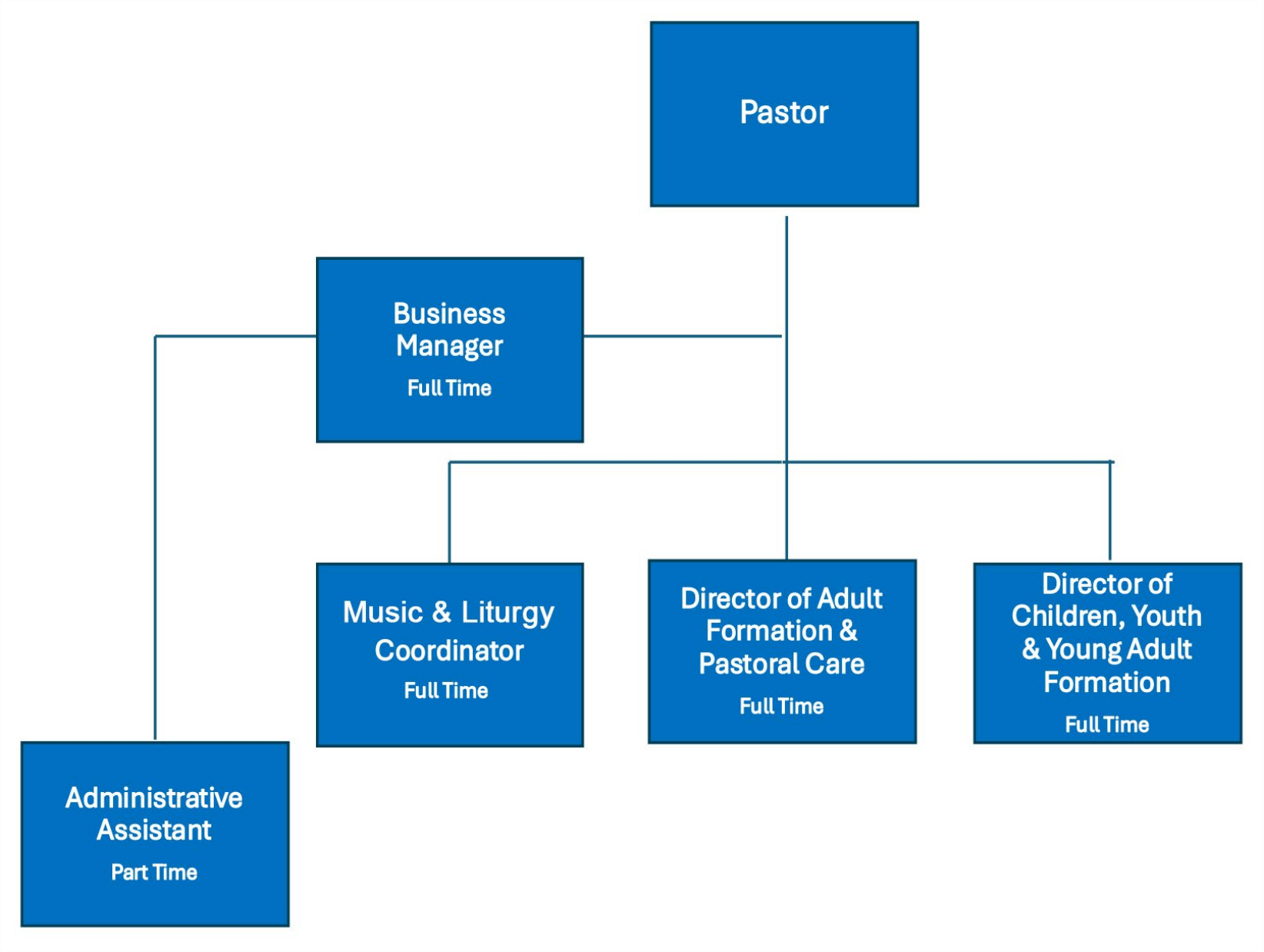
IV. Parish Social Life Experience

Objective 5 – To expand the parish community that is vibrant, social, welcoming and active so all parishioners would love to be involved.

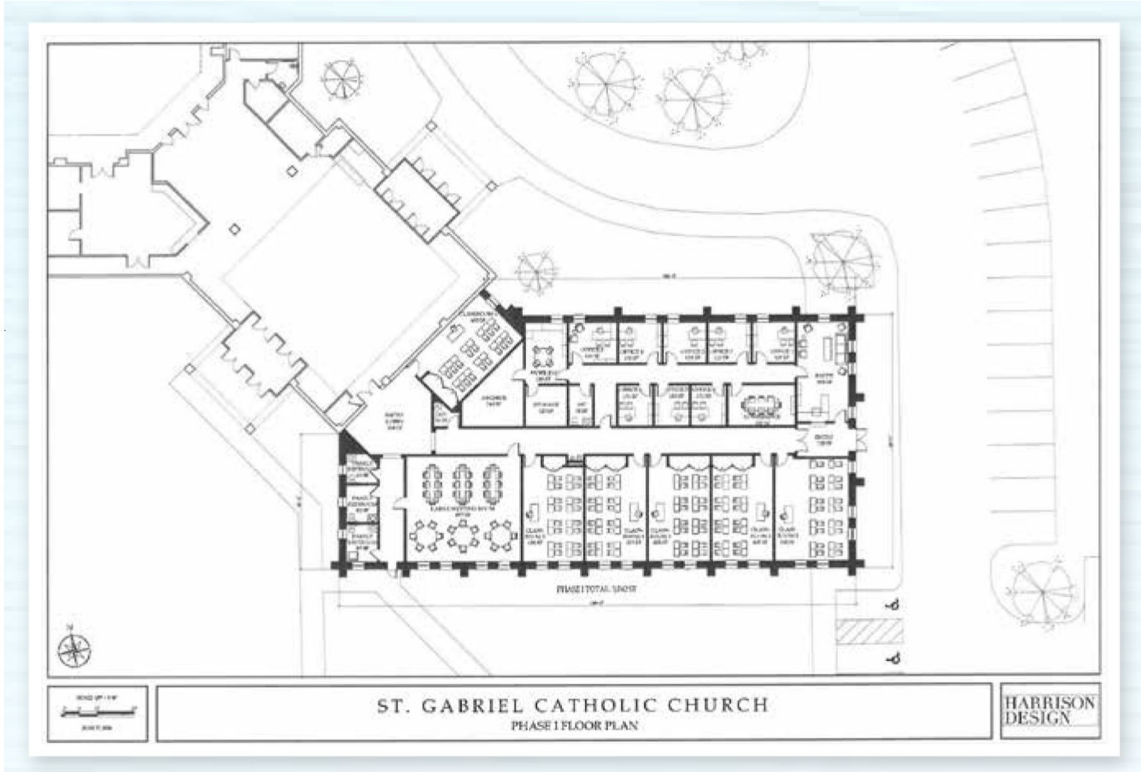
V. Measurement and Accountability

Objective 6 – To measure parameters to ensure the parish is planning for the future.
Objective 7 – To expand the physical infrastructure of the parish.

APPENDIX A: ST. GABRIEL ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE







FORMATION CENTER