Holy Innocents Visioning Priorities

Goals	Actions	Priorities
To encourage people to worship God	1. commission a Worship Planning Team	**Establish a team of parishioners who will enhance the weekly worship** experience. The team will ensure a mixture of traditional and innovative elements in worship services. Elements could include; music, drama, dance, videos, creative readings and other imaginative media.
	2. expand music ministry	**Employ alternative musical elements.** Involve parishioners to increase the use of contemporary hymns, interpretative music, guest musicians and increased role of aesthetic expression.
	3. honour the spiritually of youth	**Increase the youth involvement in the parish.** Solicit input and feedback from youth. Invite them to suggest ways the church can help them grow in faith. Advocate for youth.
	4. enhance service delivery	**Connect with today's media-savvy culture.** Use multimedia to create new opportunities and enhance services (visually display bulletin, order of service; increase online communication).
	5. develop a welcoming environment	**Review all aspects of the experience of church attendees.** Provide "hospitality" training to church volunteers, expand amenities provided by the church, improve building accessibility.
	6. offer new expressions of worship	**Increase use of creative worship styles and times.** Diversify prayer styles, music selection, sermon style and congregational involvement.
To empower the disciples of tomorrow	1. grow a vibrant Sunday School	**Create a dynamic opportunity for young people** to grow in their faith. Increase use of theme packages. Emphasis on highly engaged, active learning opportunities (singalongs, drama, play and crafts).
	2. enable young adults to explore their faith	**Include parish youth in all church activities.** They participate in the service and contribute to the life of the church (e.g., counters, readers, Eucharistic assistant, vestry, outreach, etc.).
	3. provide adult Christian education	**Offer programs to develop leadership within parishioners.** Leadership programs would include administrative aspects of church life

		and personal spirituality (how we act in the community).
To provide scripture, tradition and reason	1. provide faith development opportunities 2. challenge, nourish and support the journey of faith	**Develop programs to explore God's word,** the sacraments, leadership, discipleship and church teaching (block sessions on specific aspects of faith). Programming inside and outside the service.
	3. enhance worship by exploring truths and asking difficult questions	**Contemplate life's complex topics and moral dilemmas during worship.** Topics within liturgy, prayer, sermon, readings and music will challenge parishioners to consider (e.g., sexuality, media influence, distribution of wealth, secular world, etc.)
To nurture Christian fellowship	1. enhance hospitality and welcoming ministry	**Establish an environment that fosters a positive experience.** Increase modern conveniences, encourage a more casual experience, foster a friendly atmosphere (provide refreshments and snacks, engage in informal socials before and after service, provide Wi-Fi, etc.)
	2. provide fellowship at every worship	**Increase Christian fellowship.** Develop social time before and after service. (i.e., greeters training, fellowship lunch after worship, following up with new members, maintain an active membership list)
	3. extend parish celebrations of fellowship increase sense of community	**Celebrate our parish family relationship.** Increase the number of music nights, family nights, parish meals, movie night and sports nights.
To grow Christian faith	1. develop community partnerships	**Develop community outreach ministries to give back.** For example, awareness and health programs such as drug/gambling addictions, mental health, senior advocates or supporting the working poor.
	2. increase community visibility 3. advertise parish activity	**Inform the general public and promote parish activities.** Develop a communication plan and provide creative consistent messaging (create a logo/image, advertise, expand use of social media, etc.)
	4. encourage stewardship	**Invite parishioners to participate in ministries** such as worship, education and service. Engage congregational resources such as time, talents and money. Increase awareness of the

		importance of financial giving in supporting parish ministry (shift income source, begin a visioning financial campaign).
	5. expand parish evangelism	**Develop ministries that support God's people in the 21st century**. Spreading the Word by integrating social media, enhancing hospitality, diversifying the liturgy.
	6. adjust the church building to meet our needs	**Develop the church property/equipment** to ensure that we can fully take part in our community of faith. Increase; accessibility, modern amenities and multimedia.
	7. renew the long-term fiscal plan	**Communicate to every parishioner regarding the parish's fiscal requirements.** Develop an understanding of everyone's role in meeting financial demands. Strive to be fiscally stable. Provide regular fiscal updates (overall and personal), appeal to the congregation for more help.
To reach out to others	1. expand home worship	**Develop a team ministry** to visit sick, hospital, senior's home.
		Develop parish literature (bulletin, newsletter, information sheet).
		Broadcast services. First post sermons and portions of services, followed by full service. Ultimately stream live service
		Increase worship opportunities. Worship outside the church building and outside "regular" times. Create faith development group (a social opportunity).
	2. support the special needs of parishioners 3. respond to needs of all God's people	**Support and meet special needs.** Building and equipment upgrades to make it more accessible: renovate bathrooms, main entrance and side entrance; hearing assistance; increase braille resources; and improve multi-floor access.
	4. reach out to young families	**Integrate technology** into general practice (install device chargers, provide Wi-Fi, develop a "bookless" service).
		Enhance hospitality efforts to develop a sense of community.
		Diversify the liturgy (expand the prayer repertoire, increase the use of contemporary music).
	5. reorganize parish structure	**Increasing the role of parishioners** in church decisions and operation (creating property,

		liturgy, education, outreach, and finance committees).
		Increase family days and activities.