



The Synod Action Plan for **HOLY NAME OF JESUS, CEDAR LAKE**

July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2021

Our Parish Vision

With the grace and guidance of the Holy Spirit, the people of Holy Name of Jesus advance our mission as a welcoming community of faith, hope, and service. We will embrace all who seek to draw a deeper relationship and connection with Jesus Christ. We model our lives in the footsteps of Mary and the saints, providing hope and assistance to those most in need, and engaging traditional and nontraditional families in the life of our parish. Through the example set forth by the domestic church, young Catholics will grow as disciples of Christ in faith and be sustained as their unique gifts and talents are recognized and integrated into parish life. Called by name, under the Holy Name of Jesus, we will realize our full potential as children of God.

Our Priorities

Over the next three years, our priest(s), deacons, lay staff and parishioners will focus our efforts on the following three pastoral priorities and associated goals in order to bring fulfill the vision of First Diocesan Synod and foster the New Evangelization in our local church:

Priority 1: **Welcoming All (Evangelization 3a)**

Rationale: Holy Name of Jesus will create and sustain a spiritual home where all people, regardless of origins or circumstances, are welcomed and feel confident in sharing their faith in ways that channel others to discover Christ.

The “Joy of the Gospel” calls us to sustain a community where all people, regardless of origins or circumstances, are welcomed and nurtured in finding a spiritual home. Amidst changing demographics and technological advances, parishioners will seek initiatives through intentional outreach in order to draw people deeper in faith and communion with the church. Being ever mindful of the poor, the immigrant, and the marginalized, a practical knowledge of our faith and what it means to be evangelized in the ways of our early disciples will challenge parishioners to share the Good News and bring others closer to Jesus Christ.

Priority 2: **Embracing our Families (Marriage and Family Life, 1 & 2)**

Rationale: Holy Name of Jesus will address changing views of marriage and family life by focusing on the sacramental nature of marriage and guiding traditional and non-traditional families in ways to share the Gospel message in the home and with others.

“Marriage and family are gifts from God, the way by which we come to live, love and believe.” (Pope Francis). We are a sacramental community, believing that God is revealed in all times and places, and we reverence the unique gift of the sacrament of marriage. Today’s culture has done much to change attitudes and alter conventional views of marriage and family structure. Holy Name of Jesus will address these shifts by focusing on the power of God’s grace in a sacramental marriage and its role in forming a family where the love of God and neighbor is primary. In the eyes of God, all people are to be treasured, and we will offer prayer, encouragement and support to those preparing for marriage, to those already married, and to those living in non-traditional households.

Priority 3: **Commissioning our Youth (Young Catholics, 3)**

Rationale: Holy Name of Jesus will provide on-going formation for our young Catholics by providing opportunities which will allow their own identity to emerge, positioning them as integral and contributing members of our Church.

At Holy Name of Jesus, we cherish our young people, and we recognize the unique gifts and talents they bring to the parish. Their witness at liturgy, programs, and events energizes and awakens us all to the workings of the Spirit who enlivens our service and love. We will nourish this enthusiasm by providing ongoing formation well into their teen years and beyond by creating intergenerational opportunities for them in which to engage and collaborate with others. Their own identity will emerge as integral and contributing members of our Catholic community and prepare them for their role as disciples in making God’s love visible in the world.