



## **Diocese of Gary**

Most Reverend Donald J. Hying

### **St. Mary Parish –Kouts**

Reverend Thomas Tibbs, Pastor

#### **Ecclesial Area:**

##### **SMART Goal:**

##### **Priority:**

##### **SMART Goal Rationale:**

#### **Evangelization**

Reconnect 10% of the inactive families of our parish over the next three years.

Enhance the participation within our church by inspiring new members to join our faith and encouraging existing members to fully engage in their faith.

St. Mary's Parish is a small, family oriented congregation of believers. It is important for us to continually strive to know and understand each other as a close knit family. At the same time, we must welcome and help others to grow in our faith.

#### **Ecclesial Area:**

##### **SMART Goal:**

##### **Priority:**

##### **SMART Goal Rationale**

#### **Evangelization**

Increase our parish membership by 10% over the next three years.

Enhance the participation within our church by inspiring new members to join our faith and encouraging existing members to fully engage in their faith.

St. Mary's Parish is a small, family-oriented congregation of believers. It is important for us to continually strive to know and understand each other as a close knit family. At the same time, we must welcome and help others to grow in our faith.

#### **Ecclesial Area:**

##### **SMART Goal:**

##### **Priority:**

#### **Sacraments, Prayer and Worship**

Increase the offering of Catholic learning events to five per year by the end of 2019.

Educate and develop a stronger understanding of our faith and a more confident parish of disciples.

**SMART Goal Rationale:**

We are all Catholics with a variety of life experiences and various levels of understanding of our faith. Knowledge alone isn't enough, but it is a great start. We must have opportunities to share the living faith. Making sacraments and prayer time come alive is a good start to keeping people engaged.

**Ecclesial Area:**

**Sacraments, Prayer and Worship**

**SMART Goal:**

Energize participation and improve understanding of the ministries and sacraments.

**Priority:**

Educate and develop a stronger understanding of our faith and a more confident parish of disciples.

**SMART Goal Rationale:**

We are all Catholics with a variety of life experiences and various levels of understanding of our faith. Knowledge alone isn't enough, but it is a great start. We must have opportunities to share the living faith. Making sacraments and prayer time come alive is a good start to keeping people engaged.

**Ecclesial Area:**

**Young Catholics**

**SMART Goal:**

Re-establish the youth group and implement a strategy to self-sustain within two years.

**Priority:**

Promote a parish of excited young Catholics being led, taught and supported by their families and community to become the next disciples of Catholicism.

**SMART Goal Rationale:**

A strong faith and education starts at home. Parents, godparents, and families are the primary educators of our youth. The youth are the future of our church. St. Mary's church must cultivate this education and support our families and youth in this essential mission. We do this by engaging the youth in our daily lives, providing age specific faith sharing opportunities, and an environment for them to interact and witness some positive peer experiences.

**Ecclesial Area:**

**Young Catholics**

**SMART Goal:**

Engage confirmed youth in ministries and programs within the Church by 2020.

**Priority**

Promote a parish of excited young Catholics being led, taught and supported by their families and community to become the next disciples of Catholicism.

**SMART Goal Rationale:**

A strong faith and education starts at home. Parents, godparents, and families are the primary educators of our youth. The youth are the future of our church. St. Mary's church must cultivate this education and support our families and youth in this essential mission. We do this by engaging the youth in our daily lives, providing age specific faith sharing opportunities, and an environment for them to interact and witness some positive peer experiences.