



## **Diocese of Gary**

Most Reverend Donald J. Hying

**St. Maria Goretti - Dyer**

Reverend Charles Niblick, Pastor

### **Ecclesial Area:**

**SMART Goal:**

**Priority:**

**SMART Goal Rationale:**

### **Social Teaching**

Establish a pastoral presence at healthcare institutions in our area and develop working relationships with funeral directors so as to be available to serve families at or before the time of death of a loved one.

Social Teaching

Our geographical location places us in an area that is densely populated with health care, residential care for the aging, extended care for the sick, and hospice care for the dying so calls for ministry are more than likely to increase at the time of death and bereavement.

### **Ecclesial Area:**

**SMART Goal:**

**Priority:**

**SMART Goal Rationale:**

### **Social Teaching**

Recruit, form, and evaluate volunteers through personal invitation and actual witness during parish funerals that will continue the work of planning funeral liturgies and be available during liturgies and visitation prior to the funeral.

Social Teaching

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**Ecclesial Area:**

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**SMART Goal Rationale:**

**Discipleship and Formation**

Create working gardens on our property for experimentation with various plants and grasses chosen on their desirability as sources of renewal of the soil and air while offering protection for insects and animals endangered by the development of housing and commercial properties.

**Discipleship and Formation**

Pope Francis in his encyclical, *Laudato Si* (Be Praised!) has called for an honest recognition of our inclination to dominate the earth based on a faulty reading of The Book of Genesis. Pope Francis teaches that the earth is our common home—human, animal, mineral, and all biological realities—and that our responsibility is to care for all of creation as we originate all together in the loving act of the creator manifest and living in all that is, that has been, and that will be.

**Ecclesial Area:**

**SMART Goal:**

**Priority:**

**SMART Goal Rationale:**

**Discipleship and Formation**

Develop specific recycling opportunities through careful choice of food and food service materials.

Discipleship and Formation

Create a recycling consciousness in all buildings and for all purposes.

**Ecclesial Area**

**SMART Goal:**

**Evangelization**

Continue to offer creative, theologically sound liturgical experiences, particularly the Sunday Liturgy, with quality music involving parish members, especially young people.

**Priority:**

**SMART Goal Rationale:**

**Evangelization**

St. Maria Goretti to continue adult faith formation sessions that seek to bring Catholic tradition into conversation with the arts and cultural accomplishments and contributions of those who have gone before us with an emphasis on the historical development and nature of Catholic practices and beliefs.