

Parish of South Yarra

Pastoral Plan 2021

Parish Vision Statement

- We the people of the Catholic parish of South Yarra aspire to be a **community** one in mind and heart on the way to God,
- where we are supported and sustained by the Gospel of Jesus through personal **prayer** and celebration of the Eucharist,
- where we are encouraged to share our gifts and talents in the **service** of others in the wider community,
- where we remain open and responsive to the guidance of the Holy Spirit and seek to draw others to God's love through our openness and **hospitality**,
- *and* where the care, safety and **wellbeing** of children and vulnerable persons is a central and fundamental responsibility.



Vision Theme	Community
Goal	Means
<p>1. To sustain, nurture and actively support the parish community</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foster occasional smaller groupings of parishioners as a focus for mutual support (e.g. family-based sacramental programs etc.) • Use the Parish Centre to provide activities within the parish community for parishioners to meet socially, such as the annual BBQ, and St. Thomas Aquinas' Day Picnic, gatherings of volunteers
<p>2. To maintain effective communication within the parish and beyond in order to promote what we have to offer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the parish website and weekly "Bulletin" are effective means of communication, meeting the needs of a diverse population • Investigate other potential methods of communication and outreach through printed materials, liaison with community groups and services • Maintain an accurate electronic database of parishioners • Devise an effective approach to welcoming appropriate to the values, culture and priorities of the parish to sustain a vibrant community
<p>3. To acknowledge celebrate the presence of our young people in the parish and to endeavour to nourish and support them in their faith journey</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To work towards making the parish a hub for young people to gather, worship and support one another in their faith • To work with YAM leadership to encourage their planning and active engagement with the parish community through their involvement in parish committees and activities • To encourage our pastoral assistant to devote time and interest in ministry to young adults • To collaborate with Augustinian, diocesan and other church youth organisations

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To link with Augustinian groups for youth and also to be aware for the need to promote vocations
--	--

Vision Theme	Prayer
Goal	Means
1. Provide liturgy and worship through active participation of clergy and parishioners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure high quality and effective 'welcome', music, homilies, lay ministry (readers, commentators, support) that meet the needs of a diverse and changing community Maintain our two present worship centres and forge a greater sense of parish unity and identity
2. To walk, listen to and be with those searching for God	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To offer occasional and seasonal faith renewal and enrichment programs within the parish, or with other local churches Continue to promote the RCIA program; volunteer programs Engage with the preparations and outcomes of the Australian Plenary Council 2020
3. To enrich the faith life and spirituality of members of the parish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain efforts to promote the Catechumenate (RCIA program) and adult faith renewal Provide Catechetics/Sunday School (Children's Liturgy) & Sacramental Programs Renewal and faith formation programs for parish ministers, volunteers, and the faithful in general (retreats, seminars) Create opportunities to promote awareness of ties with other Augustinian parishes and Augustinian Friends

Vision Theme	Service
Goal	Means
1. Pastoral Care - To demonstrate our concern for the welfare of both the vulnerable in our midst and the spiritual needs of our own community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remain alert to the needs of senior parishioners, younger people and newer parishioners • Facilitate renewal opportunities for parish staff, pastoral leadership team and volunteer base • Continue to collaborate in chaplaincy to the Alfred Hospital, and local nursing homes

Vision Theme	Hospitality
Goal	Means
1. To demonstrate a practical commitment to the care of the needy and marginalised in the parish and local community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate with SJOS to maintain and develop the parish emergency support services (food store, bread distribution, crisis shelter, etc.) as a priority. (whilst also seeking to outsource and supplement existing resources) • Continue outreach to a wide spectrum of community groups, e.g. LGBTI community and addiction support groups, through the availability of our meeting room space • Be alert to the needs of residents in both the SJOS Transition Housing, and the Haven Units • To be aware to the emerging needs and issues relating to minorities, and alienated members of our community

Vision Theme	Wellbeing
Goal	Means
1. Safeguarding - To be proactive fostering awareness of the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assign coordination of compliance and safeguarding responsibilities to parish business manager

<p>safety of children and vulnerable persons in our care and ensuring compliance with church and civil guidelines with regard to training, accreditation and updating of records for employees, ministers and volunteers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure the records of WWCC and Police Checks for all parish ministers and volunteers are properly maintained• To establish and maintain a parish safeguarding committee to monitor and support the business manager• To liaise with church and civil authorities to provide regular training for all church minister and volunteers• To manage regular risk assessment and prepare for a safeguarding audit by Australian Catholic Safeguarding Ltd (ACSL) and/or Commission for Children and Young People (CCYP)• To devise, review, update and publicize parish policy regarding safeguarding and related matters
--	---



An Augustinian Parish Values.....

offering a personal and unconditional welcome to all and the opportunity for friendship and social interaction in different contexts

the personal attributes of its members and the diversity of gifts they bring: their expertise and talents; their commitment and sense of shared responsibility and loyalty

commitment to social justice within and beyond our immediate community

the opportunities and encouragement provided for leadership and service in different ministries in the parish and broader community

the leadership and service of the ordained ministers, religious and Parish Associates, support staff and volunteers

the history and traditions of our faith drawn together under the Augustinian charism

the ecumenical diversity of different faith traditions in the wider community

meeting the challenges of the times, being open to change, and responding constructively

the responsible stewardship of its resources