

***“We Endeavor to Bring the Good News  
of Salvation to All People.”***

Has anyone not heard this phrase before? This has been the core mission of the Church of the Holy Apostles since the very beginning of its existence. It was the grounding statement of our original Parish Mission Statement. Along the way we have been thrown numerous curveballs and have had to alter our plans. However, we still remain dedicated to the Statement above. For the first time, we now have a formal Parish Pastoral Council (PPC). The members, whether elected appointed or ex officio, are dedicated to this statement and ensuring all of us know and understand what it means. Your PPC reflected on and discussed our modern day mission and how it differed from the original one. We eventually chose to stay true to this notion and restate our Parish Mission Statement with just this sentence. This statement is the essence for why we continue to exist and why we are unique. We adopted it at our last meeting and are now proceeding to work on our Parish Vision Statement that will set our direction for the next three to five years. Yes, we are planning for the future, because all of us believe we have a future. No one can predict accurately what the future will bring, but we have to plan and work toward goals to get there. We will look for input as we proceed and pray all of you will join us on this journey in Christ.

You witnessed the installation of our PPC in October, but since then you probably have not heard much additional information. We have been organizing and setting procedures and customs. One of the tenets of our operation is to be transparent. We will not operate in secrecy or hold back our proceedings from the Parish body. We will lead the best we can and seek the counsel of Our Lord with prayer and discernment. One of the first exercises we completed was the election and formation of the PPC Leadership Team. The team consists of our Pastor, Father Jim, and a Chair, Vice-Chair and a Secretary. As I result of our elections I humbly accepted the role of Chair for the next three years. Louise Casamento is our Vice-Chair and Robin Sexton is our Secretary. This team has been involved in CHA for many years and has only our mission and our congregation in our hearts. As we pray for the grace and guidance of the Holy Spirit in this endeavor, we also ask that you pray for us.

Finally, I promise to communicate with you as we lead our Parish toward our mission: *“We endeavor to bring the Good News of salvation to all people.”*

Bill Squicciarini, Chairman, CHA Parish Pastoral Council