

*Parish Examen: The questions in the Parish Examen reflect on what must be true about the culture, people, and practices in the parish to create a “healthy parish” that effectively witnesses to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and fulfills our mission (focused on outward engagement rather than inward maintenance).*

### **CHRIST-CENTERED MISSION: PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL & DIVINE WORSHIP**

1. To what extent does our parish culture:
  - a. reflect confidence in and fidelity to Church teachings?
  - b. provide a life-giving and ongoing encounter with Jesus Christ? Are we as a parish able to provide evidence for this?
  - c. believe that a faithful proclamation of the Gospel carries in itself the power to transform lives?

### **THE ROLE OF THE PASTOR & PAROCHIAL VICAR**

2. Are we as a parish willing and able to take the steps to reduce the administrative burden on our priests and allow them to prioritize personal prayer, evangelization, and pastoral care as spiritual fathers? What do we need to do concretely to make this a reality?

### **MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP**

3. To what extent is our parish proactive in bringing the Gospel beyond the parking lot, and are we welcoming and engaging new people when they come?
4. Does our parish have missionary evangelistic outreach programs (e.g., Alpha, Rescue Project)?

5. To what extent do our catechesis and faith formation programs serve parishioners of all ages?

6. To what extent does our parish foster vocations to the priesthood, the diaconate and religious or consecrated life within our parish community? Are we supporting our parishioners in their respective vocations and state in life?

7. What strategies are we engaged in that encourage more parishioners to actively engage in the life and activities of the parish?

8. Are we identifying and involving new people in parish activities, moving beyond the “usual” group of engaged parishioners?

**\*WORKS OF MERCY & CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING MINISTRY**

9. To what extent does our parish actively engage in the works of mercy and ensure they align with Catholic moral and social teaching?

**STEWARDSHIP**

10. To what extent do our facilities and campus adequately support the mission work of the parish? If not, what improvements are necessary and possible?

\*The corporal works of mercy are: *feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, shelter the homeless, visit the sick, visit the prisoners, bury the dead, and give alms to the poor.*