

ENGLISH VERSION



# ST. DOMINIC SAVIO CHURCH

# Pastoral Plan

2011 - 2015

A SALESIAN PARISH!



# ST. DOMINIC SAVIO PASTORAL PLAN 2011 -2015



"I have told you this so that my joy may be in you  
and your joy may be complete.

This is my commandment:  
love one another as I have loved you."

John 15: 11-12

## **Mission Statement**

We, the people of St. Dominic Savio Parish, are called by Jesus Christ to form a community of faith within the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, according to the Spirit of the Gospel as lived by St. John Bosco.

Nourished by the Word and Eucharist, we are inspired and energized to proclaim the Good News through a collaborative ministry: to evangelize, to support all vocations, to discern the needs of the community, responding with respect and loving service, and to share the light of faith by education and example.

As a Salesian family, we encourage loyalty to church leadership, devotion to Mary, the Mother of God, and the development of Christian values in youth.

Trusting in God's loving presence; we seek to be worthy disciples of Jesus Christ, walking together in the journey to eternal salvation.

## Letter from the Pastor

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January 31, 2011

Dear Parishioners,

I am so pleased and excited to present to you our new pastoral plan for the next five years. The parish has worked very hard to come up with the answer to three questions: 1) What is God asking of us? 2) What is the reality of what we are actually doing?

3) How do we get from the reality to what God is asking of us? The whole community of St. Dominic Savio was given the opportunity to reflect on these questions and give their prayerful response.

After many hours of listening, the pastoral council spent many, many hours discerning what the community felt God was asking of us. This is the finished product of a lot of work. I wish to thank all the members of the parish who gave their input and the pastoral council for their dedicated and faithful work.

The pastoral plan is not a perfect plan. Only in heaven will we have perfection. However, we have listened to the call of God and have obeyed that call. We have accepted the challenge of creating a more vibrant, faith-filled Salesian parish reaching out to the young; reaching out to those who sometimes feel excluded and as outcasts and those of us seeking to become better disciples of Jesus Christ in the spirit of St. John Bosco. I encourage all of us to recommit ourselves to God's call to live more deeply and more lovingly our Christian lives.

God has blessed our parish community. We give God thanks for the blessings of the past, those being showered upon us now and what we will receive in the future. Through the intercession of St. Dominic Savio, the patron of our parish, St. John Bosco and Mary Help of Christians, may we go forward in unity and courage to create into reality what God is asking of us. May you all be abundantly blessed.

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Ted Montemayor, Pastor

“A parish that evangelizes, a school that prepares for life, a home that welcomes, and a playground where friends can come together”

Founded in 1954 and named after the newly canonized saint, a student and protégé of St. John Bosco, St. Dominic Savio Catholic Community strives to welcome all in the love of Christ Jesus.

As a parish that evangelizes, our parish community emphasizes formation and outreach, of both youth and adults, through ongoing faith formation and social justice activities within the parish and beyond, including missionary outreach.

As a school that prepares for life, the Parish school, and the after school Religious Education program under the leadership of the Salesian Sisters, Daughters of Mary, Help of Christians (FMA's). Our Religious Education programs reach out to more than 1000 children and teens in the surrounding community.

As a home that welcomes, Savio enjoys the diversity of many cultural and ethnic groups in an atmosphere of unity and collaboration. Almost equally Spanish and English speaking, with a large Filipino population, the liturgical and formative life of Savio reflects a loving embrace of our diversity as well as our unity in Christ.

As a playground where friends can come together, the parish enjoys large Fiestas twice a year; welcomed the Relic of St. John Bosco in 2010; provides an active Youth Center, Summer Camp, ball courts for teens and children; sponsors youth sports and scouting programs and promotes other social and civic activities.

Currently, St. Dominic Savio Parish is comprised of 4000 registered families surrounding Bellflower, California. The people of this parish, in promoting the Good News, welcomes all who seek unity and joy in service to our God.

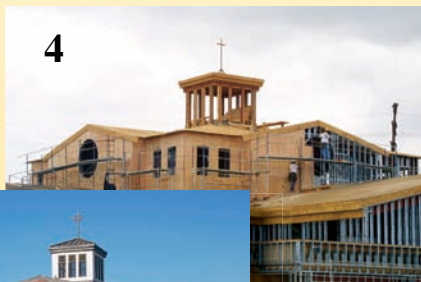
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"This is how all will know that you are my disciples,  
if you have love for one another."

John 13:35

## **GOD IS CALLING OUR PARISH TO BE:**

- I. A WELCOMING FAMILY UNIFIED THROUGH FAITH
- II. A COMMUNITY PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE AND EVANGELIZE
- III. A SPIRITUALLY DEVELOPED PART OF THE BODY OF CHRIST



## WELCOMING FAMILY UNIFIED THROUGH FAITH

We are called by God to be one in faith and in worship, unified through the love of Jesus Christ in service to those in need. We believe we are strengthened by the richness of the diversity within our community and are called to use that strength to spread the Gospel message to all. Our differences should never be a barrier to our welcoming those within the parish as well as those outside the parish who wish to become part of the worshipping community at St. Dominic Savio Church.



Our goals in this area reflect our belief in the power of diversity. These goals are aimed at improving communication, understanding, and creating positive relationships between diverse groups through personal contact, prayer and good works.

**GOAL #1: To improve communication within the parish by providing parishioners with opportunities to share information and concerns.**

### **Objective #1**

Representatives of all parish groups will meet quarterly to communicate activities and goals. Collaboration on charitable, social and educational projects will be encouraged as much as possible.

### **Objective #2**

Invite parishioners to communicate concerns to Parish Council through a “suggestion box” in the church office as well as by providing access to contact information for members of the Parish Counsel.



## **GOAL #2: To improve communications within the parish by developing a communications model utilizing a number of different media**

### **Objective #1**

Use of the internet to promote accurate, current information for events such as parish liturgies, sacraments, and activities. Research and implement optimum use of online social networking tools such as Facebook and Twitter, and other such media sites.

### **Objective #2**

Identify and activate an alternative means of communication for those who do not participate in electronic media (such as an information station outside church or in the vestibule).

## **Goal #3 To expand the welcoming capabilities of our parish to a more diverse group of individuals**

### **Objective #1**

Devise a program of welcoming that includes a welcoming committee, with a personal contact, sources of information, and an invitation to join.

### **Objective #2**

Strengthen the parish usher ministry.

### **Objective #3**

Contact expert resources on building inclusive communities. Provide activities such as speakers' series, printed material, and internet training on the dynamics of cultural diversity.

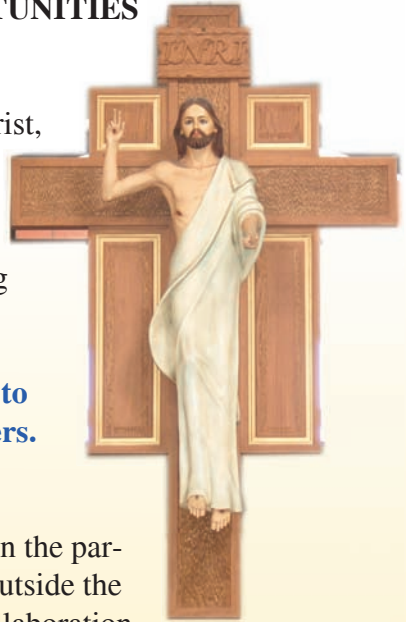
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"Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least ones of mine, you did for me....Amen, I say to you, what you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me."

Matthew 25: 40, 45

## **COMMUNITY PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE AND EVANGELIZE**

As bearers of the Good News of Jesus Christ, we are called upon to provide members of our parish with opportunities to serve those in need both inside and outside of our parish and to evangelize to those being served as well as those in service.



**Goal #1: To identify and communicate to parishioners opportunities to serve others.**

### **Objective #1**

Identify current efforts of various groups in the parish toward those in need both inside and outside the parish and encourage coordination and collaboration wherever possible.

### **Objective #2**

Expand opportunities to serve by providing members of the parish of all ages with opportunities that vary in time commitment and that serve the needs of both individuals inside and outside of our parish.

**Goal #2 To identify and coordinate efforts to evangelize both within and outside of the parish, to populations already identified and those who are not yet identified, utilizing all modern means of communication.**

### **Objective #1**

Form separate committees to better serve known populations in need of evangelization such as young adults, married couples, and families.

### **Objective #2**

Form a committee to reach out to previously unidentified populations inside and outside of the parish such as the divorced, unmarried, widowed, undocumented, new immigrants, and LGTB.



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## **SPIRITUALLY DEVELOPED PART OF THE BODY OF CHRIST**

As a Parish, we are called by God to spiritually feed and nurture God's people. We do this through formation and development of each person's unique relationship with their loving Creator. We do this through the devout and active celebration of the Eucharist, as well as joyful celebration of other sacraments, liturgies and age-appropriate devotional practices. We also do this through catechetical programs and various religious education opportunities exploring the truths of the Bible and the teaching Magisterium of the Catholic Church. As a Salesian Parish we do this through the charisms of St. John Bosco of reason, religion and kindness towards youth.

**Goal #1: To improve our understanding of who we are as a Salesian parish, utilizing the charisms of St. John Bosco in a preference for youth, and especially poor youth.**

### **Objective #1**

Form a Youth Ministry Leadership Core Team, comprised of representatives of different youth ministries and including youth, to integrate the spirituality of St. John Bosco into the entire parish life.



### **Objective #2**

Utilize and participate in Salesian formation activities, such as SMS, SYLC, SLIM, SES, and SEES to create formation activities and special events furthering this goal in our community.

### **Objective #3**

Form an ad hoc committee to see how best to staff youth ministry, utilizing paid and volunteer positions, in every effort to focus on our Salesian calling to serve the youth.

## **Goals #2 To increase our Spirituality through participation in excellent liturgical experiences.**

### **Objective #1**

Eliminate practical difficulties to well run liturgies by investigating issues of language, traffic congestion, and demographics. Form an ad hoc committee to recommend to the Pastor beneficial changes to the mass schedule.



### **Objective #2**

Hire a trained, bi lingual liturgy director to plan all liturgies and over see liturgical minister formation, using the National Association of Church Personnel Administrators (NACPA) job description for his or her qualifications and compensation. If budgetary restraints prevent this, then the most economical alternative is to be sought and implemented.

### **Objective #3**

Investigate the possibility of creating a vestibule outside the current church structure to add to the solemnity of the liturgical experience and to provide an area of information exchange on formation activities.

### **Objective #4**

Create an education effort to increase a sense of awe and reverence for liturgy. Use all efforts, including modern communication options, to educate all parishioners on proper liturgical etiquette with an emphasis on the spirituality of the liturgical experience.

### **Objective #5**

Study the formation of a homily support group to give feedback and encouragement to our homilists as they request, to better serve the effectiveness of the homily.

## **Goal #3 To increase our spirituality through excellent sacramental experiences.**

### **Objective #1**

Form a Marriage Team to better facilitate marriage preparation and preservation.



### **Objective #2**

Continue and encourage the Baptismal Team to journey with young families as they baptize their children and establish their own small faith communities in their homes.

### **Objective #3**

Form an ad hoc committee to explore the “best practices” of all sacramental practices (including Quincianeras). Prepare written procedures and guidelines which will be reviewed and evaluated on a regular schedule.

## **Goal #4 To increase our spirituality through programs of formation for our ministers.**

### **Objective #1**

Develop formation plans and curriculums for all ministers: ordained, professed and lay. Review and evaluate these plans at regular intervals.

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## **Glossary**

- LGTB Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender
- SMS Salesian Ministry Seminar
- SYLC Salesian Youth Leadership Conference
- SLIM Salesian Leadership Institute in Ministry
- SES Salesian Educational Seminar
- SEES Salesian Elementary Educational Seminar



## St. Dominic Savio Church

For more information please  
visit our website at

[www.saintdominicsavio.org](http://www.saintdominicsavio.org)