

MISSION STATEMENTS

PART 1 COMMON THEMES/ELEMENTS IN SUGGESTED MISSION STATEMENTS

8 - LOVE - love individuals and families; love; share God's message of love, peace; a community that strives to be a place of unconditional love; to love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength; love our neighbor as ourselves; share Christ's love; become agents of love, healing, and renewal.

6 - WORSHIP/GLORIFY GOD/CHRIST - worship; worship God; a sacred place/space where we gather to worship; devotion to Jesus Christ; glorify God by living the Gospel; worship God according to our unbroken chain traced to the apostles and the faith delivered to them by Christ.

5 - WELCOMING/SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY - welcome, support and; a loving and welcoming, community; community; foster a passionate and supportive community both; a diverse, multiethnic, worshipping community.

5 - KNOW GOD/CHRIST - Christ lives in us; united to Christ; foster a love for Christ that extends to every person made in His image; serve as a gracious beacon of Orthodox Christianity; strive to know God; inspiring people to seek a growing relationship with Christ.

4 - SERVE OTHERS - serving others as disciples of Jesus Christ; serve the community.

4 - SALVATION / SPIRITUAL JOURNEY - so that we might receive an eternal life of salvation; salvation through the Holy Trinity; on their/our spiritual journeys; theosis.

3 - EDUCATE - teach the Gospel of Christ in the Orthodox tradition; teach the Orthodox Christian Faith; to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ; share God's Word through the teachings of the Orthodox Christian Faith.

3 - GROW FAITH - grow our faith and connection with God encourage all people to continue to build on their faith; our faith.

3 - HUMILITY - become humble servants of Jesus Christ; humility; with humility and open hands connect all brothers and sisters of Christ to walk together.

2 - LIVE THE FAITH - live the Orthodox Christian Faith; reflect and actively demonstrate excellence in all that is good.

2 - PRAYER – prayer; participation in the prayer life.

2 - SACRAMENTS & SERVICES - participation in the sacramental life of the Orthodox Christian Church; sacraments and services.

ONE OFFS

- ~ serve others, to serve the spiritual needs of the Orthodox faithful,
- ~ strive to avoid the errors of those before us
- ~ We should strive to be like the man who sold everything he had to buy the field with the treasure, or like the widow who gave her last two coins, or like Abraham receiving the 3 strangers in the desert;
- ~ transform this world to bring in God's Kingdom.
- ~ draw others to the fullness of the Orthodox Church through
- ~ acquire the Spirit of Peace
- ~ fasting,
- ~ almsgiving,

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- ~ by the reception of God's grace through the sacraments our lives are transformed/conformed into the image and likeness of Christ and
- ~ honor the traditions of the Greek Orthodox church;
- ~ mystically continue Christ's presence on earth through the church.

PART 2 ACTUAL DRAFT MISSION STATEMENTS

THE MISSION OF HOLY TRINITY...

...to energize, guide, and cultivate the faithful in teachings of the Orthodox Christian Faith;

... a comforting, welcoming, community of faith driven energy which allows members to have a voice and have value. It represents Orthodox Christianity while allowing members to define what it means to them and to their families, while embracing the ever-changing landscape of organized religion;

... a Christ-centered Orthodox community rooted in Greek tradition, welcoming all to experience, learn and grow in their faith;

...a Christ-centered Orthodox community, welcoming all to experience, learn and grow in their faith, and recognizing our roots in Greek traditions and culture;

... enrich lives in our communities;

... growing in our Orthodox faith, inclusive with new and potential Christians, while maintaining our current traditions;

... embraces all people with love and compassion to guide them in their journey to know God;

.... welcome all people. To live a Christian life, grow spiritually, and become disciples of Jesus Christ through serving others;

... is a Christ centered community that concentrates on welcoming all parishioners;

... to honor God by living and sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with all people through worship and service.;

...to be a spiritual home to all who enter, to be a Christ Like community active in Worship, Fellowship, Service, and Witness, and through participation in the sacraments to come into union with God;

...to be an Orthodox community that encourages all people to continue to build on their faith through love, community, worship, and devotion to Jesus Christ;

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... celebrate the mission of Christ on Earth, to provide a traditional form of worship in an open and tolerant environment that celebrates the love and forgiveness of our eternal God and provide an understanding of our Orthodox faith;

...to worship God with all of our heart, soul, mind, and body; Love our neighbors as ourselves; and to make disciples;

... theosis; through the sacraments and services, through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, we are united to Christ so that we no longer live, but rather, Christ lives in us;

... to welcome, support and love individuals and families on their/our spiritual journeys;

... to grow our faith and connection with God while fostering a passionate and supportive community both within the church and the surrounding area while honoring the traditions of the Greek Orthodox church;

... to become humble servants of Jesus Christ, not only in the ministry to our parish but to the community at large, in the hopes that through our faith and humility we draw others to the fullness of the Orthodox Church;

... to be an Orthodox community that encourages all people to continue to build on their faith through love, community, worship, and devotion to Jesus Christ;

...worship God and share God's message of love, peace, and salvation through the Holy Trinity. We strive to know God by participation in the sacramental and prayer life of the Orthodox Christian Church so that through God's grace we might receive an eternal life of salvation;

... to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to serve as a gracious beacon of Orthodox Christianity in West Michigan;

... to share God's Word through the teachings of the Orthodox Christian Faith in a community that strives to be a place of unconditional love;

...live the Orthodox Christian faith;

... to serve the spiritual needs of the Orthodox faithful in the Grand Rapids/West Michigan area, teaching the Gospel of Christ in the Orthodox tradition;

... acquire the Spirit of Peace and thusly save thousands of souls around us. (following guidance from St Seraphim of Sarov);

... to love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, and to love our neighbor as ourselves (Mark 12:30-31). Everything we do is motivated by this orientation;

...seek to worship God according to our unbroken chain traced to the apostles and the faith delivered to them by Christ, fostering a love for Christ that extends to every person made in His image;

...with humility and open hands, we strive to connect all brothers and sisters of Christ to walk Grand Rapids together;

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... is a diverse, multiethnic, worshipping community dedicated to glorifying God by living the Gospel, serving others, sharing Christ's love, and inspiring people to seek a growing relationship with Christ;

... to live, celebrate, and teach the Orthodox Christian Faith as a loving and welcoming, community serving others as disciples of Jesus Christ;

... reflect and actively demonstrate excellence in all that is good. We are commanded to mystically continue Christ's presence on earth through the church. We should strive to avoid the errors of those before us and use Jesus' gospel accounts as a clear example of how He intended us to operate. We should strive to be like the man who sold everything he had to buy the field with the treasure, or like the widow who gave her last two coins, or like Abraham receiving the 3 strangers in the desert;

... a sacred place/space where we gather to worship and by the reception of God's grace through the sacraments our lives are transformed/conformed into the image and likeness of Christ and through Him and his love we become agents of love, healing and renewal and thereby transform this world to bring in God's Kingdom.;

SUGGESTIONS NOT REALLY A MISSION STATEMENT

- ~ Have open house invitations so people can experience what we believe and how we worship;
 - ~ Become a more educated in Orthodoxy parish, to worship with all who wish to join us;
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