

ST. HELEN

# St. Remy Initiative: Professional Development for Catholic School Educators

## School Team Grant Proposal for 2016-2017

9500

Team Members: Carrie Blanco & Sandy Hartz

School: St. Helen School

1. Describe your project. How will your project strengthen your school's Catholic identity and/or contribute to improved organizational leadership?

As a Virtue-Based Restorative Discipline School, our monthly focus is upon a specific virtue. Along with the virtue, a prayer is practiced and learned. Each student will create a personal Prayer Book of Virtues containing the monthly prayers and virtues. In the last year of the school accreditation, one focus is to promote outreach to our families, where the prayer book will extend from school into the home. Students will work in Faith Families to construct the books, praying each of the prayers. Prayer cards will consist of pre-printed prayers and typed prayers on cardstock paper. Students will then be able to add their own holy cards and personal prayer card to complete their book. The entire project will be completed during Catholic Schools Week as part of our Day of Retreat with a follow-up during February and March Faith Family meetings.

2. How does your plan fit in with your Accreditation Goals, strategic plan, or school needs? Please include at least one of the criterion from the:

- A. National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Schools

- Mission and Catholic Identity

- 1 – An excellent Catholic school is guided and driven by a clearly communicated mission that embraces a Catholic identity rooted in gospel values, centered on the Eucharist, and committed to faith formation, academic excellence, and service.

- 3 – An excellent Catholic school adhering to mission provides opportunities outside the classroom for student faith formation, participation in liturgical and communal prayer, and action in service of social justice.

- B. Ohio Standards for Professional Development

Standard 6: High Quality Professional Development results in the acquisition, enhancement, or refinement of skills and knowledge.

6.5 – Provides educators with tools to engage students, families, and communities in improving student achievement.

3. Define clearly your evaluation plan for your project. Be specific.

The Catholic Identity mission goals will be evaluated through reflections shared by staff, students, and families. Additionally, we will evaluate through The Ohio Standards of Professional Development will be evaluated through the completion and implementation of the virtue based activities during future Faith Family activities following the Day of Retreat (Feb. & March). Students will add to their personal prayer books throughout the remainder of the year; observation and participation of classroom teachers will be shared. Students will share their use of the prayer book.

4. How will the mini grant dollars be utilized? Include a proposed budget and narrative. (one grant submission per school team up to \$500). Please indicate sources used if additional funds are needed.

Task	Date of Initiation and Duration	Person/s Responsible	Materials/Resources Needed	Costs
Prayer Book	Retreat Day – 1/30	Carrie Blanco & Sandy Hartz	Prayer Book	\$400.00
Prayer Cards	Retreat Day – 1/30	Carrie Blanco & Sandy Hartz	Cardstock to print monthly prayers	\$30.00
Preprinted Prayer Cards	Retreat Day – 1/30	Carrie Blanco & Sandy Hartz	Preprinted Prayer Cards	\$50.00
Decorations for Prayer Books	Retreat Day – 1/30	Carrie Blanco & Sandy Hartz	Stickers	\$20.00

The Prayer Book of Virtues is an interactive project within grades K-8 Faith Families. Approximately 400 students will create the prayer books and utilize the books in the classroom. Students will then take the prayer books home at the end of the school year to continue evangelization of the faith.