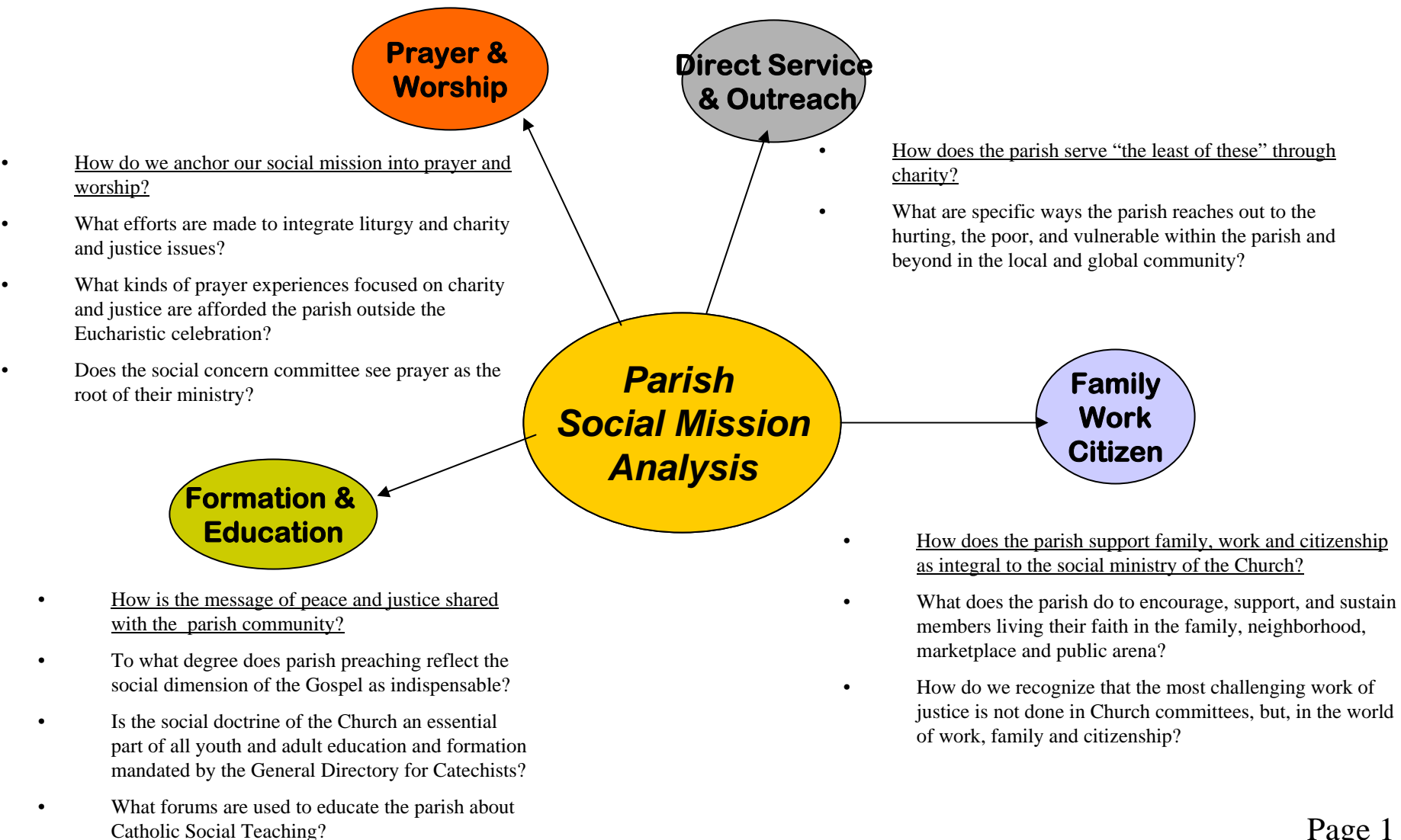
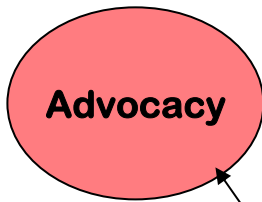


How is the Social Mission of the Church Integrated into your Parish Life?

Parish Social Mission: Catholic mission is to serve “the least of these,” to “hunger and thirst for justice,” to “be a peacemaker.” Every parish thus is on joint mission to protect human dignity and life, to defend those who are poor or oppressed, and to seek the common good. The biblical call to charity, justice and peace claims not only each believer, but also each parish community. This mission leads every community to stand with the poor and vulnerable against the strong and powerful. (*Communities of Salt and Light*)





- How does the parish serve “the least of these” through justice?
- How does the parish serve those in need and work to change those structures which deny people their dignity and rights as children of God?
- A parish serious about social ministry will offer opportunities to serve those in need and advocate for justice. How does parish ministry concretely reflect this



- What is the parish’s solidarity with the world beyond the boundaries of the parish?
- A key test of a parish’s “Catholicity” is its willingness to go beyond its boundaries to serve those in need and work for global charity and justice. How is this being done?



- Is there an issue about which your Parish has passion?
- What other issues that do not “fit” onto the chart does your Parish choose to participate in?



- How does the parish create community and organize for justice with other church and civic communities?
- How does the parish connect with those groups that are already working for justice?
- How does the parish link with diocesan structures?
- How is cultural diversity reflected in each parish ministry and how is every person invited to participate? Are confirmed youth and young adults part of every ministry?



General Organization Questions

- What is the equality of the organization in the parish of doing the social mission of the church?
- Does the parish have special committees focused on social concerns?
- Is someone in “charge” so that the social mission of the church is integrated within the framework of the parish?
- How does the parish council help place the social ministry in the center of parish life?