



CHURCH OF SAINT JOSEPH

12 W MINNESOTA ST
ST JOSEPH MN 56374

March 25, 2010

Dear Parishioners,

Last summer, several socials were held to discuss the future of our parish campus. The socials were developed as a way for parishioners to provide feedback on the results of the research done by the Programming and Facility Evaluation Team (PFET). The PFET was formed in January 2008 and issued its final report in February 2009. This team evaluated the current and future programming and facility needs of the parish and included facility tours, a parish survey of current ministries and committees, and meetings with neighbors and other area churches. In addition, parishioners were mailed a survey to complete.

The results of the PFET report, along with the surveys and the parish socials, favored the expansion of our campus to accommodate the growing ministries and activities of this parish. The PFET report highlighted our ability to make do with the limited spaces we have, but it is apparent that as we look toward the future, we need to build on the strong community present in our parish and provide the necessary space to do so.

Bishop Kinney has given our parish permission to proceed with Phase One of a potential building project that includes assessing needs and contracting an architect to develop schematics of the project. Later phases will address the financial planning and project approval. An anonymous donor, who has an interest in this process, has contributed funds that will cover the costs of this initial phase. No funds will be used from our annual operating budget.

Last fall, Fr. Joseph appointed a team to begin the process of implementing the results of the PFET, which could include the building of a gathering space, handicap accessible bathrooms and meeting rooms, along with other needs identified by parishioner feedback.

Please turn over...

The Planning and Design Committee met for the first time in November 2009. This committee's primary responsibility will be to review all the data from the PFET reports, parish surveys and socials, maintenance and other committees and to develop a Request for Proposal that will be submitted to architects. All information regarding these reports can be found on our parish website: www.churchstjoseph.org.

It is our intent, as a committee, to keep the parish informed of the process and we will be posting reports of the work on the parish website and in the weekly bulletin. The Pastoral Council has suggested a name for this process: *Making Room at Our Table*. These words carry great meaning, both in terms of our Eucharistic table and also our parish's tradition of Benedictine hospitality. Please look for future updates titled, "Making Room at Our Table."

If you have any questions, feel free to contact any of the Planning and Design Committee members.

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