

## Catholic School Update

December 5, 2010

As the planning phase concludes with the acceptance of a final proposal from the Catholic Schools Study Group, we would like to thank the members of the committee who generously gave of their time, talent and energy over the past ten months. They are: Gene Funk and Dave Borgert, Saint Michael; Lynn Kaster and Mark Koch, Saint Paul; Brenda Markman and Harry Marso, Saint Peter; Laverne Feld and Matt Symalla, Saint Joseph in Waite Park; Mark Gohmann and Susan Sink, Saint Joseph in St. Joseph. Their work is greatly appreciated.

Following the distribution of a summary of the CSSG proposal Thanksgiving week, we are ready to move forward with an implementation phase. Before we move on, however, please carefully and prayerfully review the full text. The entire report is available online at: [www.churchstjoseph.org](http://www.churchstjoseph.org). Click on Communications, select Planning, and find the full proposal under the Metro Planning – Schools tab.

Change is difficult. With the consolidation of our schools, we experience the loss of individual school identity and the loss of some valuable staff members. However, hopefully we can look forward to collaborative efforts that will help promote our school so that even more children may experience an excellent Catholic education on one of our campuses. Of the options reviewed, we believe this one will be the least disruptive to our students, parents and staff and offers the most hope for the future.

Within the coming weeks, as pastors of the five parishes of Saints Peter, Paul and Michael in St. Cloud, Saint Joseph in Waite Park, and Saint Joseph in St. Joseph, we will begin working with our school boards, principals and staffs to address a number of critical issues for our consolidated school. Please look for future updates in the parish bulletins and on the parish websites.

*Fr. Alan, Fr. Joseph and Fr. Vince*