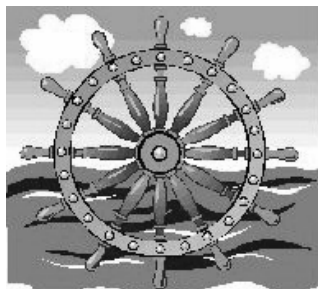


## STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT



### Steering Committee

**Tom Orsi, Chair**  
**Jane Allen**  
**Francis Dwyer**  
**Martha Dwyer**  
**Arlene Gardiner**  
**John Gibbons**  
**Elizabeth McGrath**  
**Walter Pannone**  
**Raymond Vallee**

*Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you especially for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and hold the promise for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight. Be present with us as we work together: make us responsive to your will and give to us a healthy pride in all we do that we may be good stewards of all things entrusted to us. May the prayers of our patron Bernard help us to keep in mind the wise counsel given long ago "whoever would climb to a lofty height must go by steps, not leaps."*

*We ask this through Christ our Lord.*

*Amen*

## THIS WEEK

On Monday evening the Steering Committee, two School Subcommittee members, Finance Council Chair Roger Biron and the parish trustees met with George Staples, the Director of Facilities from the Diocese and Mike Sabatino, Chief Financial Officer for the Diocese. We discussed some financing options that would be available for the new church and the school - in case we decide to move in that direction. With very preliminary numbers in hand, Mike was optimistic that the Parish could afford to build a new church and parish center. The funding for the project would come from the sale of the current property, plus cash on hand, plus the funds that we could raise through a capital campaign—approximately \$1.8 million per the 2001 Feasibility Study.

The funding of the school project would most likely come from the sale of tax-exempt bonds by the Diocese. There are several different parish and diocesan schools in need of capital financing. The Diocese is looking to coordinate a joint bond issue for these entities since this method of financing has proven to be cost effective for school projects. State law does not allow tax-exempt bonds to be issued to build churches. It must have something to do with that separation of church and state stuff that we hear so much about!

This morning (Sunday), Steering Committee members will be meeting with the School Subcommittee to get an update on its progress. On Monday evening the Steering Committee will meet with the architects. Just to be sure that we have covered all the bases, the architects have been asked to work up a layout to use the property for just a church, rectory and parish center—no school. Then on Tuesday, the Steering Committee is to meet with Tony Gwi-azdowski to work on the fundraising side of the church project. Hope we all have our Christmas shopping done because it's going to be a busy week!



**Merry Christmas  
&  
Happy New Year**



The Steering Committee and the School Subcommittee will continue to work over the next few weeks, but the bulletin insert is taking a holiday break! We'll fill you in on everything in the beginning of January. The Committee and subcommittee wish everyone a very merry and holy Christmas and a safe and happy New Year!